

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000375/26
to the Commission
Charlie Weimers (ECR), Dick Erixon (ECR), Beatrice Timgren (ECR)
(29 January 2026)**

Subject: Financial outflows following the EU-India migration pact

India is the world's largest recipient of remittances. In 2018, India received EUR 2.32 billion in personal remittances from the EU ⁽¹⁾. Personal remittances are estimated to account for around 3.5% of India's GDP ⁽²⁾. Numerous agreements were made at the 16th EU-India Summit which may increase migratory flows from India to the EU and, consequently, increase remittances sent from the EU to India.

Against this background:

1. Does the Commission estimate that remittances from the EU to India will increase following the agreements made at the 16th EU-India Summit and is it taking any additional or new measures to make cross-border remittances from the EU to non-EU countries faster or cheaper?
2. Is the Commission considering or preparing proposals to ban or reduce remittances from the EU to non-EU countries?
3. Should this wealth not stay within the EU and contribute to safe and prosperous societies in Europe?

Submitted: 29.1.2026

**Answer given by Mr Sikela on behalf of the European Commission
(26 March 2026)**

The Commission does not produce forecasts on remittance flows between the EU and non-EU countries and is not preparing any proposal to ban or reduce remittances from the EU to non-EU countries.

Remittances are the personal property of individuals legally residing and working in the EU, and their lawful use, including transfer abroad, cannot be restricted.

Remittances are private financial transfers by individuals, protected under EU rules on the free movement of capital and payments, and are subject to the usual safeguards on anti-money laundering, counter terrorist financing, sanctions and financial integrity.

These flows are determined by migrants' private decisions and by many factors (numbers of migrants, transfer costs, income levels, exchange rates, investment opportunities, etc.), whose combined impact is difficult to predict and not clearly affected, at least in the short term, by the agreements reached at the 16th EU-India Summit ⁽¹⁾.

Remittances contribute to poverty reduction and reduced inequalities in partner countries. Migrants also contribute to prosperity within the EU through work, taxes, consumption and entrepreneurship.

The EU has consistently promoted a reduction of remittance transfer costs, particularly in line with its commitment to the G20 Roadmap for Cross-Border Payments, which aims to make cross-border payments faster, cheaper, more transparent and inclusive. It is also in line with EU commitments in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals ⁽²⁾.

Average costs from the EU have been decreasing since 2016, although the situation varies by corridor. The Commission's proposal for a regulation on payment services in the internal market ⁽³⁾ includes provisions to increase transparency regarding the costs and speed of cross-border payments from the EU to third countries.

¹ ICMPD (2021), India-EU Migration and Mobility Flows & Patterns, https://www.icmpd.org/file/download/53696/file/ICMPD%2520%25C2%25B7%2520India-EU%2520Migration%2520and%2520Mobility%2520Flows%2520%2526%2520Patterns_BaselineReport.pdf.

² World Bank, Personal remittances, received (% of GDP), <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.TRF.PWKR.DT.GD.ZS?locations=IN>.

⁽¹⁾ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-5727-2026-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁽²⁾ Goal 10, target 10.c on reducing remittances costs: https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal10#targets_and_indicators.

⁽³⁾ COM/2023/367 final: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52023PC0367>.