(English version)

Question for written answer E-000376/26
to the Commission
Charlie Weimers (ECR), Beatrice Timgren (ECR), Dick Erixon (ECR)
(29 January 2026)

Subject: Effects of the EU-India Migration Pact

The package agreed to at the 16th EU-India Summit contains, among other things, commitments in support of 'talent mobility' ([1]). In a joint statement, the EU commits to facilitating the recognition of qualifications, simplifying visa procedures and supporting the movement of workers to the EU ([2]). In this context, the Commission has also announced the launch of the pilot European Legal Gateway Office in India as a one-stop hub to provide information and support for Indian workers seeking opportunities in Europe.

Against this background:

1. What impact assessment or other assessment has the Commission carried out concerning the likely effects on legal and illegal migration flows from India to the EU?

2. What concrete mobility commitments accompany the agreements, and what is the expected scale and timeline for their publication, ratification and implementation?

3. How will the Commission monitor and report migration impacts and ensure cooperation on return and readmission?

Submitted: 29.1.2026

Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(19 March 2026)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the EU and India on a Comprehensive Framework of Cooperation on Mobility that was signed at the 16th EU-India Summit on 27 January 2026 ([1]) is a non-legally binding instrument which does not create new commitments or obligations.

The MoU recalls that, in accordance with the Treaties, Member States retain the competence to determine volumes of admission of third-country nationals for work purposes.

The implementation of the MoU will be carried out within the scope of the applicable national and EU laws. Member States participation in activities carried out under the MoU will be voluntary.

The European Legal Gateway Office pilot aims at providing information on, and support for, the mobility of workers, researchers and students from India to the EU in the information and communication technology sector. Its overall duration is currently foreseen to be 26 months.

The MoU also reaffirms the intention of both India and the EU to fully cooperate on return and readmission. The Commission continuously monitors and reports on migratory flows from India using information from a variety of sources including Frontex.

Readmission cooperation with India is assessed annually in the framework of the mechanism of Article 25a of the Visa Code ([2]).

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1 European Commission (2026), Towards 2030: A Joint European Union-India Comprehensive Strategic Agenda, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_26_224.

2 European Council (2026), India-EU Joint Statement, https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/2c3jbm5f/eu-india-joint_statement_20260127.pdf.

([1]) https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_26_225.

([2]) Article 25a, Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code), pp. 23-25, https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02009R0810-20240628.