

 DIGITAL POLICY  
DIALOGUE

## THE BRIEF

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Dear Readers,

March has been a month of steady progress — and growing anticipation.

Over the past weeks, our Digital Chai Chat and DPI Workshop continued to deepen exchanges between European and Indian stakeholders, while in Brussels, we convened the first in-person workshop for our Digital ID Interoperability Feasibility Study — an important milestone in what promises to be a complex and consequential piece of work.

As we look ahead, preparations are well underway for the **EU-IN Tech Business Forum**, taking place on **4 June in New Delhi**. Bringing together European and Indian policymakers and industry leaders for a full day of substantive discussion. The Forum will help set a concrete agenda ahead of the next EU–India Trade and Technology Council Ministerial — across digital public infrastructure, AI, connectivity, semiconductors, cybersecurity, and talent.

The event is invite-only. If your organisation is working at the intersection of EU–India technology cooperation, we warmly invite you to register your interest [here](#).

In this edition, we share highlights from our recent activities, along with updates from across the EU–India digital partnership.

We look forward to continuing this journey with you — and hope to see you in Delhi in June.

Warm regards from Delhi,  
Özlem Buran  
Head of Secretariat,  
EU-India -Digital Policy Dialogue

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# Latest Project Developments

## EU-India Digital ID Interoperability Feasibility Workshop | Brussels, 1 April 2026

Earlier in April, the EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue, brought together a remarkable group of experts in Brussels for a closed-door workshop on one of the most complex questions in digital identity today: can the EUDI Wallet and India's digital ID systems of Aadhaar and DigiLocker, truly interoperate?

As part of the EU-India Digital ID Interoperability Feasibility Study, co-facilitated together with Consult Hyperion, the day-long session examined four dimensions: general purpose and scope, regulation, technical specifications, and commercial considerations — encompassing frameworks from eIDAS 2.0 and the Aadhaar Act to wallet architectures and cross-border trust frameworks.

The workshop convened experts from the OpenID Foundation, SIROS, the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF), and IN Groupe, whose contributions will directly inform the study's findings and recommendations. It was the first in a series of in-person and virtual workshops dedicated to EU-India digital identity interoperability.



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## Digital Chai Chat | Virtual, 19 March 2026

### Unlocking Talent Mobility: The EU-India Legal Gateway Office

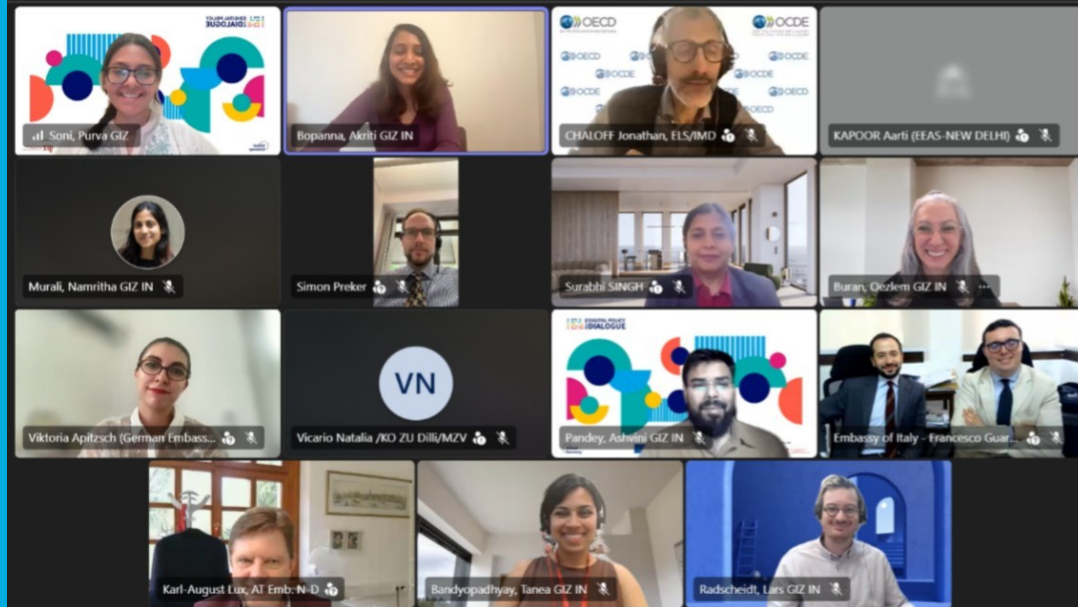
The EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue recently convened EU Member States for a focused discussion on two pressing priorities: the newly launched European Legal Gateway Office in India, and the conditions needed to make the EU a more competitive destination for highly skilled Indian ICT professionals.

The session featured two distinguished speakers. [Dr Surabhi Singh](#), India Country Coordinator at the [International Centre for Migration Policy Development \(ICMPD\)](#), presented the implementation roadmap for the Legal Gateway Office — a first-of-its-kind initiative in a partner country. [Jonathan Chaloff](#), Senior Policy Analyst at the [OECD](#), mapped the structural bottlenecks limiting smoother mobility for highly qualified professionals in AI and advanced technologies moving from India to the EU.

Three priorities emerged from the discussion — each pointing toward a more connected and competitive EU-India talent landscape: streamlining legal mobility pathways through the Legal Gateway Office; harmonising visa frameworks, addressing language barriers, and closing the gap between academic credentials and industry expectations; and establishing universal standards and trusted third-party mechanisms for skills verification.

Together, they lay the groundwork for a more fluid, skills-driven partnership between India and Europe.

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### Tech-à-Tête Podcast | Episode 2 Out Now

The EU–India Digital Policy Dialogue has released Episode 2 of *Tech-à-Tête*, hosted by Tanea Bandyopadhyay, exploring a key question: *what does it take to build AI that is safe, sovereign, and scalable?*

Titled “*The Infrastructure Behind Trustworthy AI: What the EU and India Are Building*,” the episode features [Aalekh Sharan](#), who shares insights from his experience across policymaking and real-world AI deployment in India.

The conversation explores the realities of building AI systems, from multilingual models and compute constraints to the broader question of how infrastructure can support trustworthy and inclusive AI. It also reflects on how EU and India approaches can complement each other in shaping future AI ecosystems.

 Tune in now on [Spotify](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#).

Tech-à-Tête



## The Infrastructure Behind Trustworthy AI: What the EU and India Are Building

GUEST SPEAKER



Aalekh Sharan,  
Head, Agentic AI and Head Public Sector,  
Sarvam AI

HOSTED BY



Tanea Bandyopadhyay  
Policy Advisor,  
EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue



## In The Works

Digital Chai Chat: EU–India Digital ID Interoperability Study Update  
29 April 2026, 2:00 P.M. – 2:45 P.M. IST | Virtual

### **Are you an EU Member State? Join our next Digital Chai Chat!**

The EU–India Digital Policy Dialogue Secretariat is hosting a 45-minute virtual session bringing together EU Member States for an update on the ongoing EU–India Digital ID Interoperability Feasibility Study, conducted in partnership with digital identity experts at FIME and commissioned on behalf of DG CNECT.

Since November 2025, the study has been mapping convergences and divergences across these ecosystems and developing interoperability recommendations, with an in-person workshop already held in Brussels on 31 March 2026.

This session will share preliminary findings from the mapping phase and offer an early look at the study's next phase: the design of an EU–India interoperability sandbox and pilot use cases. Steve Pannifer, Senior Vice President at FIME, will present the spotlight findings, followed by a moderated discussion to gather Member State perspectives ahead of a working session planned in New Delhi in June 2026.

Member State participation remains key to the success of the study. To attend, write to us at [digitalpolicydialogue.eu-india@giz.de](mailto:digitalpolicydialogue.eu-india@giz.de)

### **EU-IN Trade and Technology Council (TTC) Business Forum**

**4 June 2026 | New Delhi**

With the EU–India Free Trade Agreement concluded, and the Strategic Agenda 2030 endorsed, the conditions for a more ambitious digital partnership are in place. The EU-IN Tech Business Forum is designed to turn that moment into a concrete agenda — ahead of the next EU–India Trade and Technology Council Ministerial.

Organised by the Secretariat of the EU–India Digital Policy Dialogue together with the EU Delegation to India and Bhutan, the Forum will bring together European and Indian policymakers, industry leaders, and research institutions for a full day of substantive discussion across six areas: digital public infrastructure, AI and compute, connectivity and 6G, semiconductors, cybersecurity, and talent.

The event is invite-only. If your organisation is working at the intersection of EU–India technology cooperation, we warmly invite you to register your interest.

[Register Your Interest Here](#)

## **Team Europe Spotlight**

### **Strengthening India–Netherlands Semiconductor Cooperation**

India and the Netherlands are deepening collaboration in the semiconductor sector, with leadership from ASML engaging with Ashwini Vaishnaw to explore next steps in partnership. Discussions highlighted India's progress under its semiconductor roadmap and outlined priorities for the next phase, including strengthening capabilities across design, materials, equipment, chemicals, and gases.

ASML is actively exploring partnerships with Indian companies and plans to engage further with semiconductor units and industry stakeholders across the country. The exchange reflects growing alignment between India's expanding semiconductor ambitions and the Netherlands' leadership in advanced equipment and research.



## News Update

### India

**India and Finland Discuss Expanding Cooperation in Skill Development, Vocational Education and Workforce Mobility**  
05.03.2026, PIB India

India and Finland held a bilateral meeting to strengthen cooperation in skill development, vocational education, and workforce mobility. Discussions focused on aligning training systems, enhancing institutional partnerships, and creating structured mobility pathways for skilled professionals. Both sides highlighted complementarities between India's growing talent base and Finland's labour market needs, particularly in sectors such as healthcare, construction, and green technologies, while emphasising the importance of skills recognition and sustainable mobility frameworks.

**India Makes Significant Progress in Semiconductor Talent Training Under C2S Initiative: IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw**  
07.03.2026, APAC Media

India is advancing semiconductor workforce development under the Chips to Startups (C2S) programme, with over 315 institutions currently using Electronic Design Automation (EDA) tools, set to expand to 500 under India Semiconductor Mission 2.0. The initiative aims to train 85,000 engineers in chip design, with students gaining hands-on experience across the semiconductor value chain. The government highlighted the programme's role in building a skilled talent pipeline and positioning India as a global semiconductor hub amid rising industry demand.

**Skill at Scale: India's Edge in Semiconductor Alliances – The Diplomat**  
14.03.2026, The Diplomat

India is emerging as a key partner in global semiconductor alliances, driven by its ability to develop skilled talent at scale. As countries seek to diversify supply chains and reduce dependencies, India's large engineering workforce and expanding skilling initiatives position it as a critical player in the semiconductor ecosystem. The country's focus on workforce development complements international partnerships, reinforcing its role in supporting resilient and competitive global semiconductor value chains.

**Telecommunication Engineering Centre, the technical arm of Department of Telecommunications (DoT), to organize International Workshop on 6G Standardization**  
16.03.2026, PIB India

India's Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), under the Department of Telecommunications, will host an international workshop on 6G standardisation in New Delhi. The initiative supports the Bharat 6G Vision and aims to strengthen India's role in shaping global telecom standards. Bringing together experts from government, industry, academia, and international bodies, the workshop will address key areas including AI integration, spectrum planning, network architecture, and security frameworks for next-generation communication systems.

**India to Launch Four Semiconductor Plants by 2026**  
20.03.2026, BisInfotech

India is accelerating efforts to build a self-reliant semiconductor ecosystem, with four semiconductor manufacturing plants expected to become operational by the end of 2026. The initiative forms part of the country's broader strategy to strengthen domestic capabilities, reduce external dependencies, and position India as a key player in global semiconductor supply chains. The development underscores growing momentum in infrastructure, investment, and industrial capacity within India's semiconductor sector.

#### **Rajasthan government unveils semiconductor policy - Indian Infrastructure** **25.03.2026, Indian Infrastructure**

The Rajasthan government has introduced a new semiconductor policy aimed at attracting investment and strengthening the state's electronics manufacturing ecosystem. The policy focuses on developing infrastructure, supporting industry growth, and creating a conducive environment for semiconductor and component manufacturing. It aligns with India's broader strategy to expand domestic capabilities and position itself as a global hub for semiconductor production.

#### **India Moves to Strengthen Enforcement of Tech Regulations** **30 March 2026, Reuters**

India has proposed making **government advisories legally binding** on major technology companies, signalling a stronger regulatory stance toward digital platforms. The move aims to improve compliance, enhance accountability, and address risks related to online content and platform governance. It reflects India's broader efforts to tighten oversight of large tech firms as digital ecosystems expand.

### **Europe**

#### **ECB to run digital euro pilot in second half of 2027** **06.03.2026, Central Banking**

The European Central Bank has published a plan to run a digital euro pilot programme in the second half of 2027. The bank is inviting payment service providers with a licence in the eurozone alongside "selected merchants" and Eurosystem staff to test a beta version of the central bank digital currency in "everyday situations" for 12 months.

#### **Germany's national Data Centre Strategy** **24.03.2026, Ashurst**

Germany has introduced a National Data Centre Strategy aimed at strengthening digital infrastructure, enhancing energy efficiency, and supporting the growth of data-driven technologies. The strategy focuses on expanding capacity, improving sustainability standards, and ensuring secure and resilient data ecosystems. It reflects Germany's broader efforts to position itself as a competitive hub for data centres and to support the scaling of AI and cloud-based innovation.

#### **Deep Tech Momentum Returns to Connect Startups with Buyers** **26.03.2026, The Recursive**

Europe is witnessing renewed momentum in deep tech investment and innovation, particularly across AI, energy, space, and defence sectors. Strengthened funding, policy support, and ecosystem collaboration are accelerating the development and adoption of advanced technologies. The trend highlights Europe's efforts to enhance technological sovereignty, scale innovation, and compete globally in critical and emerging technology domains.

## **Women in Tech**



**Urvashi Aneja | Founder and Director,  
Digital Futures Lab**

Dr. Urvashi Aneja is a leading researcher, policy strategist, and entrepreneur shaping the global conversation on technology and society. She is the Founder and Director of Digital Futures Lab (DFL), one of India's foremost think tanks focused on the societal impacts of emerging technologies.

Her work seeks to realign technological innovation with the public interest and promote a more equitable distribution of technology gains.

Recognised by *MIT Management Review* as one of the 50 people shaping India's digital rise (2025) and by *TechCrunch* as one of the influential women shaping AI globally (2024), Urvashi is a trusted advisor to governments, international organisations, and industry on digital and AI policy.

Her research and commentary have been featured in *The Financial Times*, *MIT Technology Review*, *Al Jazeera*, *BBC*, *Reuters*, and *The Economic Times*, among others. She holds an MPhil and PhD in Politics and International Relations from the University of Oxford.

## Upcoming Events

### **Nasscom GCC Summit | 6-7 May 2026**

The Nasscom GCC Summit 2026 will bring together leaders from India's Global Capability Centre (GCC) ecosystem to explore the evolving role of GCCs as strategic drivers of enterprise transformation. Now in its 16th edition, the Summit will focus on how GCCs are moving beyond execution to ownership—shaping AI-led innovation, organisational strategy, and global value creation.

Structured around themes such as AI-native enterprises, adaptive leadership, scaling global capabilities, and governance as a competitive advantage, the Summit aims to position India at the forefront of next-generation enterprise models.

## Meet Our Team

At the heart of the EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue is a team working quietly but strategically to connect dots across continents, policies, and people. In this new section, we take you behind the scenes to meet the people driving the Dialogue forward. From policy coordination to programme design, each team member brings a unique perspective and commitment to digital cooperation—so you know who to reach out to, and for what, as we continue building this partnership together.



**Ms. Namritha Murali**  
***Advisor, EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue***

Namritha Murali is a Policy Advisor supporting the EU-India Digital Policy and the Indo-German Digital Dialogue at GIZ. She was a LAMP Fellow in Delhi between 2017-18, and had worked across legislation, non-profit and social impact consulting.

Over the past years she has worked across Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture, Open source AI and Digital Public Infrastructure. Her interests include future of work, gender-informed urban development and a healthy dose of near-eastern history.

She holds a Master of Public Policy with a specialisation in Digital Governance from Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, Germany.

Reach out to her at [namritha.murali@giz.de](mailto:namritha.murali@giz.de) and connect with her on LinkedIn at [Namritha Murali](#).

## Follow us on LinkedIn!

Follow the EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue LinkedIn page to stay in the loop with updates, event invites, and community stories.

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