



Written by [Rebecca Terrell](#) on February 18, 2026

EU Officials' Candid Admissions of Migration as Demographic Remedy

In recent months, European Union officials from member states have increasingly voiced the “[quiet part out loud](#)” — making [explicit acknowledgments](#) that large-scale migration, facilitated through trade agreements like those with India, is [intended to offset Europe's plummeting birth rates and aging populations](#). This shift in rhetoric marks a departure from veiled discussions on labor shortages, revealing a strategic push to reshape the Continent's demographics under the guise of economic necessity.



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EU Admissions

A pivotal example emerged from Greece, where [Defense Minister Nikos Dendias](#) stated during a public address that Europe's “population growth is almost negative,” necessitating an influx of young workers. He singled out India as “one of the best choices for legal migration.” This comment aligns with ongoing EU-India trade negotiations, which include provisions for easier worker mobility, potentially allowing millions of Indians to enter the European labor market. Proponents argue this addresses acute shortages in sectors like IT and healthcare, but detractors see it as a deliberate demographic overhaul, bypassing efforts to boost native birth rates through family incentives or affordable housing.

Similarly, in Spain, former Equality Minister Irene Montero sparked outrage by openly endorsing a “replacement” of right-wing voters with migrants. In a speech, she urged migrants not to “leave us alone with so many right-wingers,” advocating for nationality law changes to enable their voting rights. “Of course I hope [for] replacement theory,” she said, aiming to “sweep right-wingers [and] racists from this country” with “hardworking people” from diverse backgrounds. This candid admission, [captured in viral footage](#), underscores how some officials view migration not just as economic filler, but as a political tool to alter electoral landscapes.

Eastern Europe

Even beyond strict EU borders, similar sentiments echo in deals like [Serbia's agreement with Ghana](#) for 100,000 work permits to combat its “catastrophic demographic challenge,” including low fertility and emigration. While Serbia isn't an EU member, its policies reflect broader European trends, where migration will be used to compensate for shrinking native populations. Official EU reports reinforce this narrative. The [Joint Research Centre's analysis](#) projects a five-percent EU population decline by mid-century due to low fertility, with migration offering only a partial offset. The [European Council on Foreign Relations](#) warns there's “no credible scenario” for tackling demographic decline without external migrants, emphasizing partnerships with countries like India to demographically terraform Europe. What the Council on Foreign Relations-types don't want people to know is that there are other steps countries can take to boost birth rates.



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Promoting Native Population Growth

Hungary, for instance, has instituted pro-natalist policies under Viktor Orbán, spending around five percent of GDP on family support. Key incentives include [lifetime personal income tax exemptions](#) for mothers with three or more children.

Poland's flagship ["Family 800+" program](#) provides monthly cash allowances per child (around €187 as of recent updates), initially for two or more children and later expanded. This direct support has reduced child poverty and modestly lifted births, particularly of second and third children, by removing economic barriers to family growth.

Most recently, the U.K. scrapped the [two-child benefit cap](#) in the Autumn Budget 2025, announced by Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves. Effective April 2026, Universal Credit families will claim child-related payments for all children, not just the first two. It aims to remove a disincentive to larger families amid the U.K.'s record-low fertility rate of 1.41 children per woman in 2024. These policies highlight varied approaches — tax relief, cash transfers, and benefit expansions — to support families and address falling birth rates. Contrary to the Council on Foreign Relations' rhetoric, you don't have to revert to Vietnam War talking points and "burn the village to save it." Likewise, it's not necessary to erase ancient peoples and cultures to "save" them.

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