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# India and Slovakia Elevate Ties to a Comprehensive Partnership

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CURATED &amp; WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator &amp; Content Creator

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✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources **HOW**

## WHY IN NEWS

On **June 15, 2026**, during the **first-ever visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Slovakia**, India and Slovakia elevated their relationship to a **Comprehensive Partnership**. PM Modi held talks with Slovak **Prime Minister Robert Fico** and **President Peter Pellegrini**, and the two sides signed memoranda of understanding on **labour migration** and **digital technology**. The visit, part of a wider European engagement, marks a deepening of India's outreach to Central Europe.

## THE VISIT AND ITS OUTCOMES

DETAIL	PARTICULARS
Significance	First-ever visit by an Indian PM to Slovakia (independent since 1993)
New status	Comprehensive Partnership
Interlocutors	PM Robert Fico, President Peter Pellegrini
MoUs signed	Labour migration, digital technology
Pending	An MoU on social security to be finalised

Slovak PM Fico **welcomed the India-EU Free Trade Agreement** and pledged support for its implementation, and praised India's progress in digitalisation and artificial intelligence.

## SLOVAKIA: KNOW THE COUNTRY

FEATURE	DETAIL
Capital	Bratislava
Membership	European Union, NATO and the Eurozone
Independence	1993, from the peaceful split of Czechoslovakia (the Velvet Divorce)
Economy	A Central European automotive-manufacturing hub

## THE RECENT DIPLOMATIC CHAIN

The visit builds on a sequence of recent high-level exchanges:

- **President Droupadi Murmu** visited Slovakia in April 2025.
- **President Pellegrini** visited India for the India AI Impact Summit in February 2026.
- The two countries now have a **Comprehensive Partnership** as of June 2026.

## THE ANALYSIS: MOBILITY DIPLOMACY AND THE EU GATEWAY

- 1 **Mobility diplomacy.** The labour-migration and (pending) social-security MoUs ease the legal migration of skilled Indian workers to Slovakia while protecting their rights, part of a wider Indian strategy of mobility and migration partnerships with European states.
- 2 **A gateway to the EU and the FTA.** Slovakia, an EU member and an automotive-manufacturing hub, is a useful partner as India negotiates the India-EU Free Trade Agreement; goodwill with individual member states eases the path to a wider deal.
- 3 **Diversifying Europe policy.** Engaging Central European states such as Slovakia diversifies India's European engagement beyond its largest partners like France and Germany, building a broad network of relationships.

The way forward is to **convert the partnership into substance**: finalise the social-security agreement, deepen technology and digital cooperation, and use Slovakia's manufacturing base for supply-chain and Make-in-India linkages.

## UPSC RELEVANCE

- **GS Paper 2 (International Relations):** India and Europe, bilateral agreements, the India-EU FTA, mobility and migration diplomacy.

- **Prelims:** Slovakia’s capital and memberships, the year of independence, the new partnership status, the MoUs signed.
- **Mains:** India’s outreach to Central Europe and the strategy of mobility partnerships.

## FACTS CORNER

### ★ FACTS CORNER — KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

#### THE VISIT:

First-ever Indian PM visit to Slovakia; ties elevated to a Comprehensive Partnership (June 2026)

PM Robert Fico, President Peter Pellegrini; MoUs on labour migration and digital technology

#### SLOVAKIA:

Capital Bratislava; EU, NATO and Eurozone member; independent since 1993 (Velvet Divorce)

#### THE CONTEXT:

Fico welcomed the India-EU Free Trade Agreement

President Murmu visited Slovakia (April 2025); President Pellegrini visited India for the AI Impact Summit (February 2026)

Sources: Ministry of External Affairs, PIB

Source: India and Slovakia Elevate Ties to a Comprehensive Partnership — Ujyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

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