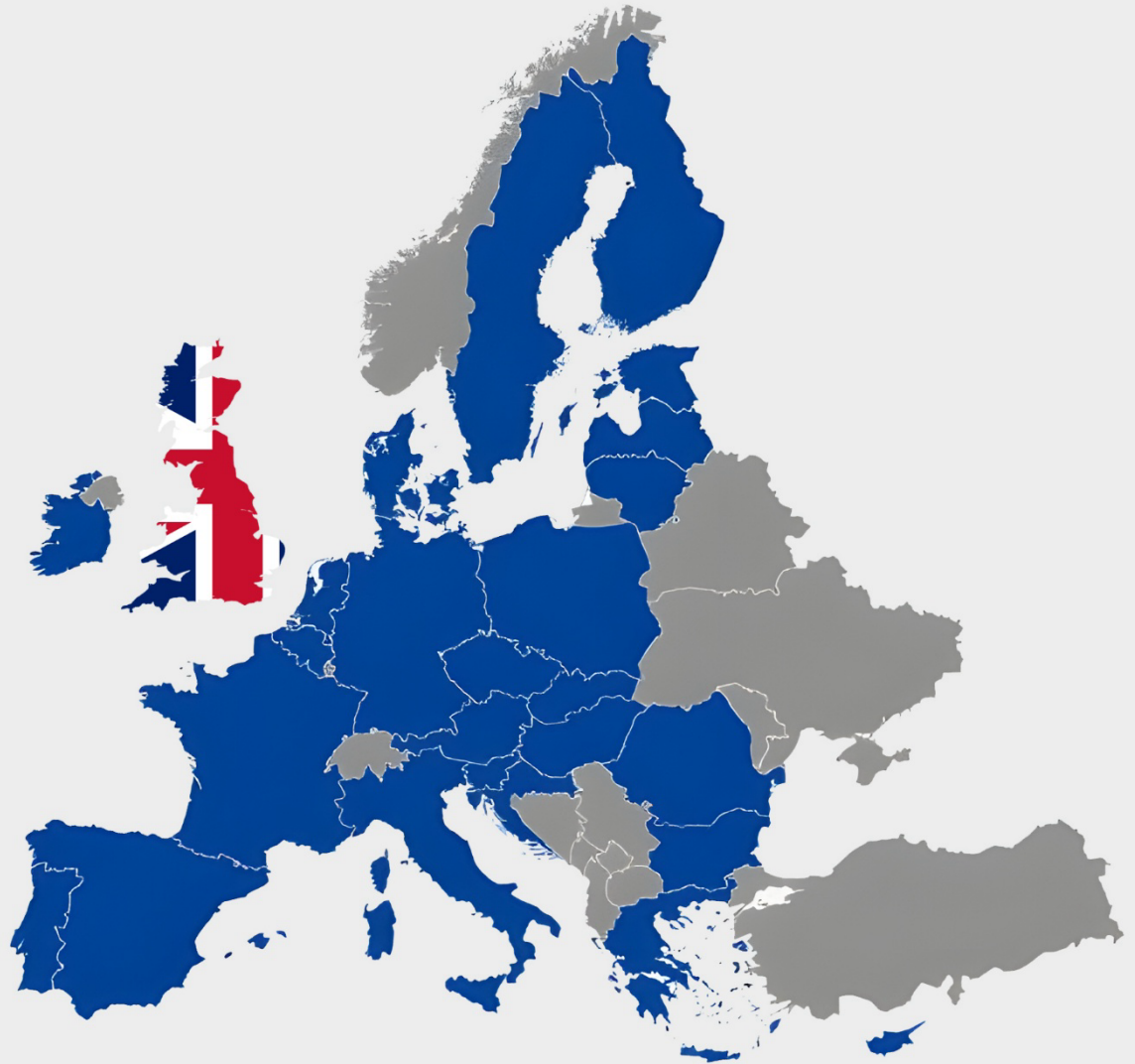


# CLAWS Newsletter



EuroLink | Vol. 1 | No. 4

by Nomita Chandola

## **EUROPE'S RESPONSE TO PAHALGAM ATTACK**

### **1. GERMANY**

Leaders and the Indian diaspora in Germany have strongly condemned the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam. In a statement, leaders expressed solidarity with India, extended condolences to the victims' families, and wished a speedy recovery to the injured. In Munich, nearly 700 members of the Indian community held a peaceful protest march from LMU's Geschwister-Scholl-Platz to Münchner Freiheit. The march, attended by German MP Prof. Dr. Hans Theiss and Munich City Councillor Delija Balidemaj, demonstrated widespread support and unity against terrorism.

### **2. FRANCE**

French President Emmanuel Macron strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and expressed deep solidarity with India. In a phone call with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Macron conveyed his condolences and reaffirmed that France stands firmly with India in this time of grief. He called the attack "cowardly" and vowed that France, along with its allies, will continue the fight against terrorism. India welcomed the support, with PM Modi expressing gratitude and reiterating the country's determination to bring the perpetrators to justice.

### **3. NETHERLANDS**

The Netherlands has strongly condemned the Pahalgam terrorist attack, with Prime Minister Mark Rutte expressing sympathy to the victims and affirming that the Netherlands stands with India in the fight against terrorism. In addition, hundreds of people in the Netherlands held a powerful protest demanding justice and action against Pakistan-supported terrorism, demonstrating international solidarity and concern over rising religiously motivated violence in the region.

### **4. ITALY**

Italy strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, expressing deep sorrow for the victims and solidarity with the Indian government and people. In Milan, over 100 members of the Indian diaspora—including various community groups and students—held a peaceful protest at Piazza Fontana near the Duomo, denouncing the violence

and showing support for the victims. This demonstration was part of a broader wave of global protests by the Indian diaspora in response to the April 22 attack.

## **5. UNITED KINGDOM**

The United Kingdom condemned the devastating terrorist attack in Pahalgam, expressing sympathy for the victims and support for the people of India. In response, the Indian diaspora in London held a large counter-protest outside the Indian High Commission, opposing pro-Khalistani and Pakistani demonstrators. Waving the Indian flag and chanting anti-terrorism slogans, the community denounced the attack that killed 26 civilians and called for global action against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. The demonstration highlighted unity and strong support for India amid rising regional tensions.

## **6. DENMARK**

Denmark strongly condemned the Pahalgam terrorist attack, with Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen expressing solidarity with India and offering condolences to the victims and their families. In addition, members of the Indian diaspora in Denmark held a peaceful protest, denouncing the attack and calling for global action against terrorism. The demonstration reflected the community's unity and support for India during this time of grief.

## **7. GREECE**

Greece strongly condemned the Pahalgam terrorist attack, reaffirming its firm opposition to cross-border terrorism. In a phone conversation, Greek Foreign Minister George Gerapetritis expressed solidarity with India, which was welcomed by Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar. The exchange highlighted the depth of the India-Greece Strategic Partnership and Greece's clear stance against terrorism in the region.

## **8. SPAIN**

Spain's Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the brutal terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir, targeting tourists and civilians. They expressed condolences to the victims, their families, and the people of India, showing support for India's efforts in combating terrorism.

## **9. NORWAY**

Norway strongly condemned the terror attack in Pahalgam that killed 26 people, with Norwegian Ambassador to India May-Elin Stener calling the incident shocking and expressing heartfelt condolences to the victims and the people of India. Speaking at Norway's national day event in New Delhi, she stated that there can be no justification for terrorism and affirmed that Norway condemns all forms of terror.

## **10. AUSTRIA**

Austria condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, expressing shock and solidarity with India. The Austrian Foreign Ministry stated that their thoughts are with the victims and reaffirmed Austria's support for India in the fight against terrorism and all forms of extremism and violence.

## **11. EU's Reaction on Pahalgam Attack and Resulting Backlash**

Following the terror attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir, that killed 26 people, the EU's top diplomat Kaja Kallas urged both India and Pakistan to exercise restraint and pursue dialogue. Her statement sparked backlash from experts and social media users, who accused the EU of double standards for failing to name Pakistan despite its history of supporting cross-border terrorism. Critics contrasted this with Kallas's strong stance on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, where she emphasized the need to confront aggressors and defend against provocation.

Many viewed the EU's response as outdated and insensitive, ignoring India's repeated but failed efforts at dialogue with Pakistan. The incident also revived External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's 2022 remark that "Europe has to grow out of the mindset that its problems are the world's problems, but the world's problems are not Europe's problems." The EU's balanced stance was widely seen in India as tone-deaf and reflective of a biased approach to global conflicts.

## **12. European Commission on Pahalgam Terror**

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen strongly condemned the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people, calling it a "vile terror attack" and

expressing solidarity with India. In her message to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, she praised India's resilience and affirmed that "Europe will stand with you" during this ordeal.





## About the Author

**Nomita Chandola** is a dedicated scholar in International Relations, with a strong academic foundation and a passion for understanding complex global issues. She recently earned her master's degree in International Relations from the University of Leeds, where she focused on modules such as global governance and climate security. Prior to this, she completed her bachelor's degree in Political Science with a minor in Economics from Kamla Nehru College, University of Delhi.

Currently, Nomita is a Research Assistant at the Centre for Land Warfare Studies, where she delves into critical issues of strategic affairs and geopolitical dynamics. Her primary area of interest lies in South Asian studies, emphasizing security dynamics and their intersections with global politics. She aspires to pursue a PhD to further explore these themes. With a keen eye for policy analysis and research, Nomita aims to contribute meaningfully to the academic and policy discourse on international security and regional stability.



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