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## ROMANIA: LEADER SEEKS TOP COURT INPUT OVER CONTENTIOUS LAWS

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The Washington Post (2 May 2018)

Romanias president has blasted a series of contentious judicial proposals, telling the constitutional court to examine them on the basis that they dont respect the rule of law.

Klaus Iohannis said Wednesday the laws that Parliament recently approved dont respect Romanias constitution, undermine prosecutors and are designed to scare magistrates. The court will now have to rule whether the laws are constitutional.

The move comes as the European Union Wednesday considers a proposal to cut funding to countries where the rule of law is deemed under threat.

The proposals in Romania include restricting public statements about corruption probes and allowing suspects to be present when a whistleblower makes allegations against them. Theres also an initiative to create a department to probe wrongdoing by magistrates.

Romanias left-wing government has defended the overhaul, saying prosecutors have too much power.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/romania-leader-seeks-top-court-input-over-contentious-laws/2018/05/02/7a99d8b4-4e08-11e8-85c1-9326c4511033\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.6c04df7fad4d](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/romania-leader-seeks-top-court-input-over-contentious-laws/2018/05/02/7a99d8b4-4e08-11e8-85c1-9326c4511033_story.html?utm_term=.6c04df7fad4d)

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