
NEW EU COMMISSION DELAYED FOR AT LEAST A MONTH

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The European Parliament expects the new EU Commission to start work with at least a months delay after MEPs rejected three candidate-commissioners, the institutions spokesman said Wednesday (16 October).

The Parliament is willing to vote on time to allow new Commission to start December 1, spokesman Jaume Duch tweeted. The new Commission had been due to take office on November 1.

Duch added a call for the rapid appointment of the new three commissioners-designate.

The effective delay means that outgoing EU president Jean-Claude Junckers commission will remain in power for at least a month longer than expected.

The postponement came as the new Commissions incoming president, Ursula von der Leyen, cast around for new candidates from France, Hungary and Romania to be put forward to join her 27-strong executive team.

MEPs displayed an unprecedented flexing of muscle during the confirmation hearings for the three original candidates from those countries this month.

Macron plays appeasement card after Goulard's rejection

After an initial outburst, French President Emmanuel Macron sought to ease tensions on Sunday (13 October) following the rejection last week of his protégée Sylvie Goulard as Frances candidate for the European Commission. EURACTIV France reports.

The MEPs said they were unsuitable to take up their portfolios due to various alleged financial irregularities and other issues.

That made a delay all but inevitable, given EU procedures and the time needed for von der Leyen to accept new candidates, have them grilled in the parliament, and for the new commission to step out as one.

A European Parliament vote is required as part of the approval process.

But Ska Keller, the co-president of the Green group in the parliament, said: There will be no vote

on the Commission in October, because three commissioners are still missing.

Von der Leyen, formerly Germanys defence minister, has said she aims to lead a geopolitical Commission that will be ambitious on tackling climate change, stand up for its place in the world, and protect the European way of life.

Commissioners assemble: Class of 2019-2024

European Commission President-elect Ursula von der Leyen has unveiled who will do what job in her administration, insisting hers will be a geopolitical Commission. Stay tuned here for all the details.

Kaynak/Source: