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## **BULGARIA AND ROMANIA HOPE TO WIN BACK PLANNED TURKISH VW PLANT**

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Deutsche Welle (18 October 2019)

Volkswagen has put plans for a 1.56 billion (\$1.56 billion) car factory in Turkey on ice because of the Turkish military offensive in Syria. And now Bulgaria and Romania are hoping to win the contract. Especially Bulgaria, which originally competed with Turkey, Serbia and Romania for the mega investment, is pulling out all the stops to get back into the game and win the deal.

Former Bulgarian President Rosen Plevneliev, honorary chairman of the powerful Automotive Cluster Bulgaria network, announced that Sofia has increased its initial proposal and "found a way to offer Volkswagen between 1 and 1.5 billion instead of the original 1 billion." Plevneliev said his country had already fundamentally made the offer and is now waiting for an answer from VW.

Take into account the infrastructure, rail links and highways in Elin Pelin near Sofia, where the proposed site is for a future plant, and the offer is quite generous as the total amount rises to a whopping €800 million.

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