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## ENLARGEMENT: A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

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By Toby Vogel And Kurt Bassuener

The European Commission missed an opportunity with its new approach to managing EU enlargement, adopted on Wednesday (5 February).

Instead of taking a hard look at why the current procedure for admitting new members is failing, the commission has tried to appease the most vocal opponent of enlargement – France – with largely cosmetic changes.

The new approach appears likely to achieve its immediate aim, which is to get France to drop its veto against opening membership talks with North Macedonia and Albania.

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