
VON DER LEYEN PRESSURES EU COUNTRIES TO SWAP WOMEN IN AS COMMISSIONER PICKS

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By Nicholas Vinocur and Barbara Moens

Ursula von der Leyen is piling pressure on EU countries to nominate women for the next European Commission as she seeks to stave off the potential humiliation of presenting a male-dominated team.

Two EU officials pointed to a risk of embarrassment for an institution that publicly promotes gender equality and has a commissioner for equality role if von der Leyen falls significantly short of parity.

Such a failure, they said, risked overshadowing the fact that three of the EUs most important jobs will be held by women: von der Leyen as European Commission president, Estonias nomination of Kaja Kallas as the head of the EUs diplomatic service, and European Parliament President Roberta Metsola.

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