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## **KYIV STONEWALLS AS PRESSURE MOUNTS TO CONFIRM TOP ECONOMIC WATCHDOG**

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The European Commission on Wednesday joined a chorus of voices publicly urging Kyiv to appoint the head of a key law enforcement watchdog □ but even a bald reminder of its reform commitments didnt appear to move Ukraines government.

Oleksandr Tsyvinskyi, a veteran anti-corruption detective, was selected on June 24 by an independent commission to lead Ukraines Economic Security Bureau, which probes economic crimes. But two successive government cabinets in Kyiv have refused to confirm his appointment, despite Ukraines pledges to both the EU and the International Monetary Fund to comply.

Kyiv should swiftly appoint Tsyvinskyi as bureau chief in line with the law, a European Commission spokesperson said in a statement to POLITICO, noting that reform of the agency is part of Ukraines broader reform commitments under the EU accession process.

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