
BELGIUM SHOOTS DOWN EU OFFER TO UNBLOCK RUSSIAN ASSETS STALEMATE

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Belgium on Monday pushed back against the European Commissions proposed concessions to unblock a 100 billion loan to Ukraine funded by frozen Russian assets – dashing EU hopes of securing a deal in time for Thursday's leaders summit.

With two days to go, the Commission is making a last push to convince EU member countries to back the loan so that billions of euros in Russian reserves held at the Euroclear bank in Brussels can be freed up to support Kyivs war-battered economy.

The EUs 27 envoys will continue discussions on the scheme later Tuesday, as talks to end Russia's almost four-year all-out war in Ukraine achieved some progress during a meeting of Western leaders and U.S. envoys in Berlin on Monday.

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