
EU SUMMIT WITH BALKAN LEADERS TO REAFFIRM MEMBERSHIP PROSPECTS

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Macron, Merz and von der Leyen among those due to gather in Montenegro for talks on integration of six countries.

European leaders will seek to show six western Balkan (*) countries that they have a real chance of joining the EU one day, despite splits over how to handle enlargement of the 27-member bloc.

Emmanuel Macron, Friedrich Merz, Giorgia Meloni and Ursula von der Leyen are among more than 30 leaders expected to gather in the Montenegrin coastal resort of Tivat on Friday for summit talks. The focus will be on integrating the six Balkan countries □ among them Montenegro and Albania - more deeply into the EU single market, paving the way for them to join the bloc.

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(*) AVİM considers the term "Western Balkans" to be a politically motivated separatist terminology and insists on the use of the geographical and historical identification "Balkans" regarding the region.

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