
EU ENLARGEMENT MOMENTUM RISKS LEAVING WESTERN BALKANS CHALLENGES UNRESOLVED, ANALYST SAYS

-

18.09.2026

Intelli News (17 September 2026)

Intelli News Editorial Team

The European Union should not let the progress of Montenegro and Albania towards membership overshadow unresolved political and reform challenges elsewhere in the Western Balkans(*), the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) said in a report.

The report, published by former Serbian government official Milica Delević, comes ahead of an expected European Commission enlargement package on Sept. 30, which is due to inform discussions by EU leaders in October. It argues that Montenegro and Albania have emerged as frontrunners but that focusing on countries facing the fewest obstacles risks weakening the bloc's wider strategy for the region.

[Click for more](#)

(*) 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.

Kaynak/Source: