
THE EU HEADS INTO A PERFECT POLITICAL STORM

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The EU is already struggling with how to get its largest-ever budget agreed, plug a massive financial hole for Ukraine and navigate geopolitical pressure from the U.S. and China. Now, it also faces being paralyzed by domestic political strife in the countries that collectively make up around 60% of its GDP and population.

Everybody used to understand that we need to finish * a political agreement by the end of the year, Cypriot President Nikos Christodoulides told POLITICO in an interview on the sidelines of last weeks European Council, referring to the blocs fraught budget negotiations.

But the Spanish election means that will no longer be possible, he said. And next year, its going to be France, Italy and others going to the polls, Christodoulides added, predicting even more complications for the bloc.

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