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## EU BACKTRACKS ON SERBIA FUNDING STOP

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Magnus Lund Nielsen

The European Commission has denied that it has halted funding to Serbia, contradicting remarks made days earlier by enlargement commissioner Marta Kos, who suggested payments had been stopped over concerns about judicial backsliding.

Kos said last week the EU had paused disbursements under the Growth Plan, the EUs cash-for-reform scheme for [Balkan] candidates.

For the time being, we have stopped all payments from the Growth Plan because it was backsliding in the judiciary, she said last Thursday in Switzerland. As long as this is not repaired, they will not be able to get European financial support, she added at an event in Fribourg.

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