
VON DER LEYEN JOINS MEPS IN DEFENCE OF EU'S 1.2 TRILLION SPENDING PLAN AHEAD OF SUMMIT

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European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen has joined MEPs in urging the blocs governments not to gut the EUs next seven-year budget, as talks on spending reach a critical phase.

I would like to caution against large cuts. It would risk cutting deep into critical priorities that we all together have agreed on, von der Leyen told MEPs during a speech in Strasbourg on Tuesday (6 October), ahead of an EU summit on 15 October.

The commission has proposed a budget worth just under 1.2 trillion, equivalent to 1.26 percent of the EUs gross national income, a small increase on the previous seven year spending plan. But the so-called frugal group of countries, led by Germany, have demanded hefty cuts, complaining that they are contributing too much.

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