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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Subject: Contradicting President Vučić's Claims, the EU Commission has not made a decision on the Strategic Status of Jadar Project

BELGRADE – A [document](#) obtained by Serbian collective *Marš sa Drine* reveals that the European Union (EU) Commission has made no decision regarding the Jadar Project's Strategic Status. This directly contradicts [a recent statement](#) made by Serbian President Aleksandar Vučić. on March 26, 2025, when he stated that the Jadar Project would receive strategic status within a week.

The official EU document is dated April 3, 2025, and is a response to a Freedom of Information request concerning Serbian raw materials proposals. The request was rejected on the grounds that the information sought ***"relate[s] to a decision which has not yet been taken by the Commission."*** The EU Commission emphasized that *"Disclosure of the information requested would undermine the protection of the decision making process of the Commission in relation to the call for Strategic Projects"*

This revelation raises a series of questions: Why did President Vučić tell the Serbian public that the Jadar Project would be granted strategic status imminently, when, according to the EU, no such decision has yet been made? Why hasn't the EU Commission publicly challenged the president's statement or issued a correction?

The timing of Vučić's announcement of March 26, 2025 complicates the already politically charged discourse surrounding the controversial project. While the Jadar Project is touted by Vučić's government as essential for Serbia's economic growth, critics have long raised concerns about the environmental, social, and geopolitical implications of the project.

The contradiction between Vučić's statement and the EU Commission's official position highlights the growing instability in Serbia's political climate and raises significant questions about transparency and accountability within the current government.

"The instability in Serbia's political climate has never been more evident. President Vučić's misleading statements about the Jadar Project are just the latest example of his disregard for the truth. The EU's failure to publicly challenge his claims only serves to further erode the trust of the Serbian

people. It is crucial that the EU does not continue to support a regime that manipulates information for political gain, especially when it threatens the country's future and environment." Ivan Bjelic of Marš sa Drine.

Marš sa Drine is a collective of citizens, independent experts and activists, from Serbia and abroad, all united to protect the Jadar Valley and the rest of Serbia from the devastating effects of mining fertile soil.

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