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Lagarde to quit ECB on 7 Feb 2027, almost nine months early

ECB President Christine Lagarde will leave nearly nine months before her term ends. That starts a race to choose her successor before France’s presidential election.

By **Manasee Kurlekar** | October 30, 2026



Europe’s most powerful central banker has set her exit date. Christine Lagarde will leave the ECB on 7 February 2027, almost nine months before her term ends.

She says she wants the freedom to speak on issues beyond monetary policy. Some MEPs say the timing could raise questions about the ECB’s political independence.

The timing is the real story: leaving in February lets today’s EU leaders pick her successor before France votes. Some MEPs say that blurs the line between the ECB and politics. Klaas Knot of the Netherlands and Pablo Hernández de Cos of Spain lead the field.

Lagarde announced her exit as the ECB held its deposit rate at 2.5%, and she insists policy won’t skip a beat.

Read online: https://worldbusinesswatch.com/news/10/342/lagarde-to-quit-ecb-on-7-feb-2027-almost-nine-months-early.html
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