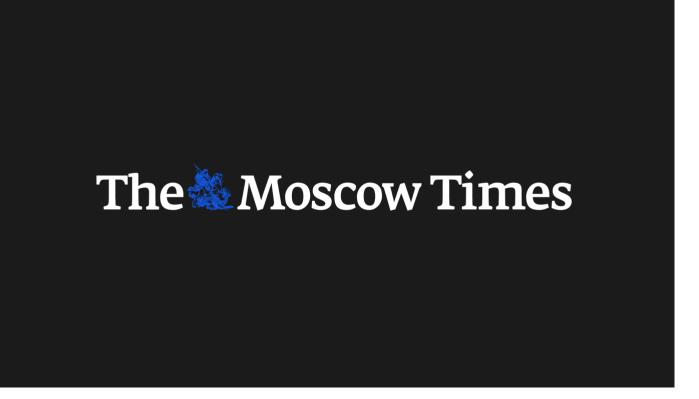


European Commission Troubled by Russian Economic Problems

By The Moscow Times

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The European Commission is worried about recent developments in Russia and has no interest in seeing the country's economy hobbled, a Commission official said on Wednesday.

"We are all watching the economic developments in Russia with concern," the official said at a briefing in Berlin ahead of a summit of European Union leaders that starts on Thursday in Brussels.

"No one has an interest in Russia falling into a deep depression," added the official, who requested anonymity.

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