



Summary

Many European media reported on Turkish Prime Minister Erdoğan's comments made on a visit to the Czech Republic including "we stand on our own feet, we have no crises" (Pravo, CZ, 5/2). He was also reported as saying "Our cooperation and solidarity with European countries will of course continue, even if they do not accept us. But our wish would be for Europe, even though they have not accepted us, to realise that 5 million citizens of Turkey live in the EU ... We say: 'Don't delay. Let's finish it'" (uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 4/2). Both Czech Prime Minister Petr Nečas and the outgoing President Václav Klaus support the idea of Turkey's EU accession. However statements from new Czech President Miloš Zeman in an online discussion indicated his negative attitude towards Turkey's EU accession. "The European Union is integrated not only by economic, but also cultural values, which are different in Turkey," (Denik, CZ, 5/2). The Times and Independent in the UK also reported Prime Minister Erdoğan comments.

- Pravo, CZ, 5/2, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130205/mi/item_147751916.pdf
- uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 4/2, <http://uk.news.yahoo.com/turkish-pm-says-delay-eu-entry-unforgivable-123830003.html>
- Denik, CZ, 5/2, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130205/mi/item_147757151.pdf
- Times, UK, 5/2 (no link available)
- Independent, UK (no link available)

The EU has said progress in talks on stabilising relations between Serbia and Kosovo will help Serbia's drive for EU membership (rferl.org, CZ, 5/2). However two Serbian children have been injured after a hand grenade was apparently thrown at their home in the flashpoint northern Kosovo town of Mitrovica. Community tensions have increased as the European Union pushes the two sides through talks aimed at normalising ties. The EU has made clear Serbia's ongoing dispute with Kosovo remains an obstacle to Belgrade's hopes of joining the EU. The two sides began EU-mediated talks aimed at normalising relations in March 2011 (bbc.co.uk, UK, 4/2).

- rferl.org, CZ, 5/2, <http://www.rferl.org/content/serbia-kosovo/24893018.html>
- bbc.co.uk, UK, 4/2, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-21331797>

In other negotiations the European Commissioner for Enlargement, Štefan Füle, urged the Albanian political class to move to sustainable reforms and democratic elections so that Albania can aspire to become a candidate for the European Union (EU). "Albania's entire process of EU-related reforms needs to be sustainable, inclusive and consensus-driven for the benefit of all Albanian citizens," said Füle (abc.es, ES, 4/2).

- abc.es, ES, 4/2, <http://www.abc.es/agencias/noticia.asp?noticia=1346786>

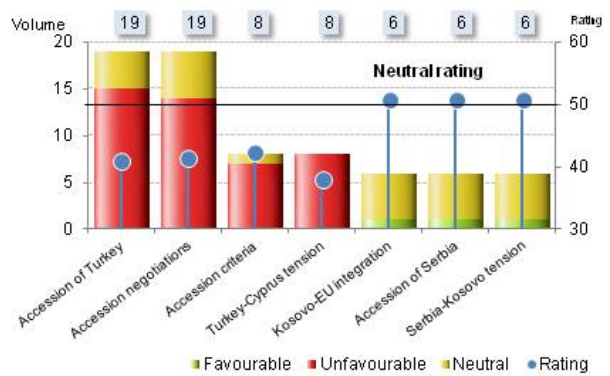
Key Quotes

The fight against corruption is an important condition for Serbia's EU membership (ATV.hu, Hungary, 6/2)

http://atv.hu/cikk/20130205_maffiakapcsolatokkal_vadoltak_meg_a_miniszterelnokot_nem_mond_le?source=hirkereso

Charts

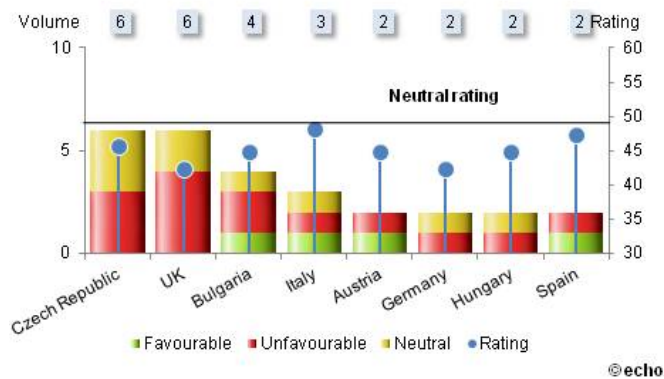
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	19
Petr Nečas (Prime Minister, Czech Republic)	6
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	4
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	3
Dejan Pavičević (Serbian liaison officer in Priština)	3
Václav Klaus (President, Czech Republic)	3

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