



Summary

The Albanian Prime Minister, Sali Berisha, withdrew his legal initiative for issuing Albanian passports to the citizens of Kosovo, because according to Berisha *"The Kosovar government is negotiating with the EU for the liberalisation of the visa regime. With regard to these circumstances we do not wish to interfere in this important process for independent Kosovo. When the process is over, the two governments will reach an agreement on the issue. But our government will recognise the Albanian citizenship of all Albanians soon"* (focus-fen.net, BG, 11/2).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 11/2, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n299130>

European Parliament Rapporteur Jelko Kacin suggested that it would be very possible for Serbia to begin its EU talks during this year. He also noted that the early parliamentary elections in the country would not assist this goal. In an interview for Kurir, Mr. Kacin explained that Serbia was facing no obstacles for acquiring an EU talks date. *"The recommendation for cooperation with the Hague Tribunal no longer exists. The main challenge is the normalisation of the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue. Thanks to the political dialogue held by Prime Minister Ivica Dačić the country has progressed in this direction. I believe that Serbia will get an EU talks date after the next round of negotiations"*, Kacin commented (focus-fen.net, BG, 11/2).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 11/2, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n299126>

The Kosovo daily Koha reported that the Kosovan Minister of Foreign Affairs, Enver Hoxhaj, said yesterday that Kosovo will have its representative's office in Belgrade under its constitutional name, saying *"I don't say that it would be an embassy, but what I can tell you now is that our representative office in Belgrade will bear the title: 'Liaison Office of the Republic of Kosovo in Serbia'. This is what both parties have agreed upon and the mediator Baroness Ashton has confirmed this to the Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi."* (focus-fen.net, BG, 10/2). Within Kosovo minorities have threatened to set in motion the locking mechanism of voting in the National Assembly, if their Albanian colleagues disregard the request for the return of the constitutional norm which reserves minority seats in the Assembly, KS Reporter stated. Members of minorities have said, that any constitutional amendment will not get the support of the minorities, if the majority do not indefinitely support their right to preserve not only a guaranteed, but also a reserved number of parliamentary seats", says a source (focus-fen.net, BG, 10/2).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 10/2, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n299049>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 10/2, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n299056>

In an opinion piece the Berliner Zeitung suggests that David Cameron's deliberations on the UK leaving the EU have caused a significant response in the eastern European public. In Croatia, the sceptical voices on EU accession are "unmistakably" growing stronger. But the closer the date gets, the greater the fear. So far, joining the EU has been a guarantee for growth, but unlike strong economic growth in then non-EU countries prior to 2004, Croatia recorded -1.8% in 2012 (Berliner-Zeitung, DE, 11/2).

- Berliner-Zeitung, DE, 11/2, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130211/mi/item_148309922.pdf

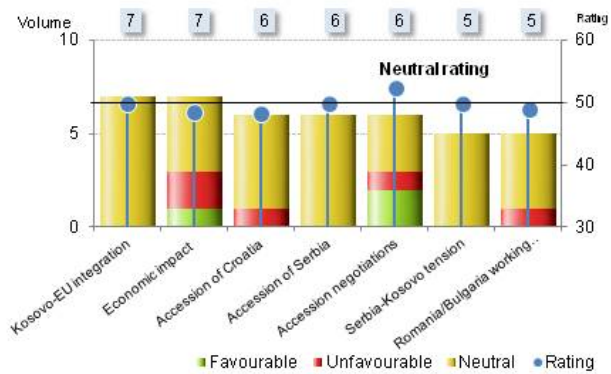
Key Quotes

Five years after Kosovo declared independence EULEX, whose mandate expires on June 14, 2014, has almost finalised the work on the planned serious reduction of its international staff. "The joint goal of the mission is to help Kosovo establish multinational democratic society, where the rights of all groups and persons are protected and respected," said Nikola Gaon, spokesperson of OSCE (Focus News, Bulgaria, 12/2) <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n299205>

Elmar Brok: "Turkey should be careful and not to pursue a confrontational policy with any of the States of the Union in order to continue to maintain its relationship with the EU" (Metrogreece, Greece, 12/2) <http://www.metrogreece.gr/ArticleDetails/tabid/82/ArticleID/283898/Default.aspx>

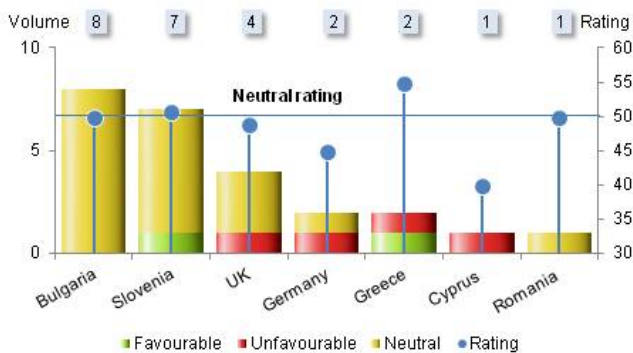
Charts

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by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: **Highlights**
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Volume	25 items
Rating	49.8
Favourable %	8%
Unfavourable %	16%
Neutral %	76%

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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
by volume, favourability & rating

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Karl Erjavec (Foreign Minister, Slovenia)	5
Vesna Pusić (Foreign Minister, Croatia)	3
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	3

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