



## Summary

Much news in Member States continued to focus on Kosovo's celebration of 5 years of independence; Expectations were high 5 years ago, wrote Svenska Dagbladet (SE, 18/2), when Kosovo broke away from Serbia, but today only half of the UN's member states have recognised Kosovo. Security is the province of the NATO-led KFOR peacekeeping forces along with EU Eulex police and law enforcement agents. EU-supported negotiations between Serbia and Kosovo have been going on since March 2011 but the basic issue is no closer to being resolved. An obstacle to Kosovo's progress is the economic crisis; one-third of the population lives on less than a dollar a day, there is 40 per cent unemployment and corruption has been fiercely criticised by both the European Union and by the people (hirado.hu, HU, 17/2). Focus News (19/2) reported that the Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee in the French parliament Danielle Auroi said that Serbia will have to recognise Kosovo's independence, unless Belgrade wishes its ambition to join the EU to remain 'just a dream.'

- Svenska-Dagbladet, SE, 18/2, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130218/mi/item\\_148962919.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130218/mi/item_148962919.pdf)
- hirado.hu, HU, 17/2, [http://www.hirado.hu/Hirek/2013/02/17/16/Visszafordithatatlan\\_ot\\_eve\\_fuggetlen\\_Koszovo.aspx](http://www.hirado.hu/Hirek/2013/02/17/16/Visszafordithatatlan_ot_eve_fuggetlen_Koszovo.aspx)
- Focus News, BG, 19/2, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n299843>

Delo (SI, 18/2) is accusing the Kosovan Government of establishing apartheid in the newly-founded country. The key problem is the integration of the Serbian population. Meanwhile, Kosovo's President Atifete Jahjaga stated that their goal is not to set up a joint nation-state with Albania, but the integration of Albania and Kosovo as two sovereign states within the EU; to pursue membership in the EU and a permanent friendship with the United States, while respecting the sovereignty of other countries and pursuing a policy of good neighbourly relations.

- Delo, SI, 18/2, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130218/mi/item\\_148975278.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130218/mi/item_148975278.pdf)

An editorial in Swedish daily Goteborgs-Posten (18/2) reported that Turkey's ambitions to become part of the EU have been sidelined by the war in Syria and the economic crisis in the EU. Turkey has clear ambitions of becoming a major power, a geopolitical player, but its involvement in Syria has meant difficult complications. To date, only one of the 35 negotiation chapters has been completed, and things look like they are going just as badly with EU membership as the war in Syria, which could have been a triumph for Turkey.

- Goteborgs-Posten, SE, 18/2, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130218/mi/item\\_148973634.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130218/mi/item_148973634.pdf)

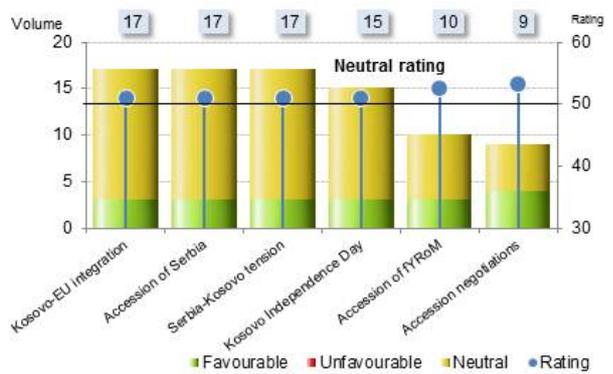
## Key Quotes

**Dnevnik, Macedonia: Political crisis dried up Fule's pen** (Focus News, Bulgaria, 19/2), <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n299841>

**The prime ministers of Serbia and Kosovo are scheduled to meet in Brussels, Belgium, for more talks mediated by the European Union** (Rferl.org, Czech, 19/2) <http://www.rferl.org/content/serbia-kosovo-eu/24905984.html>

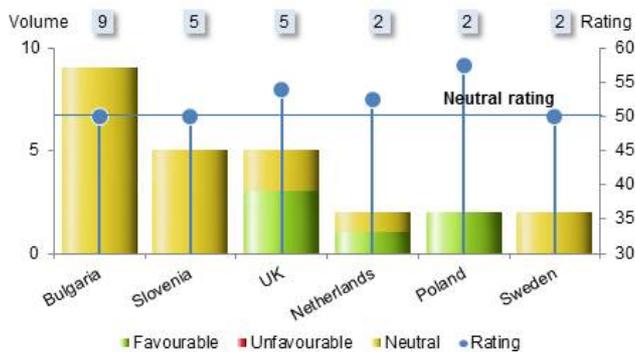
## Charts

**ELARG: Leading Daily Issues**  
by volume, favourability & rating



© echo

**ELARG: Leading Daily Countries**  
by volume, favourability & rating



© echo

**ELARG: Highlights**  
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	31 items
Rating	51.3
Favourable %	19.4%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	80.6%

© echo

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	11
Nikola Gruevski (President, FYRoM)	8
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	8
Atifete Jahjaga (President, Kosovo)	7
Boyko Borisov (Prime Minister, Bulgaria)	6
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	4
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	3

**Disclaimer:** The access to this press report is restricted to European Commission staff. It should not be forwarded or circulated.