



## Summary

Ireland's minister for European Affairs, Lucinda Creighton, and EU Commissioner for Enlargement Štefan Füle write in Cinco-Dias (ES, 6/2) "*This year provides great opportunities for enlargement. Making the most of them is up to potential and candidates countries. We, on behalf of the EU, reaffirm our continued commitment to the process and our promise to bring those countries closer to the European Union once necessary reforms are put in place and conditionality fulfilled*". Former European Commissioner and Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini has expressed support to further EU and NATO enlargement but added that there are not many politicians in Europe sharing the same stance. "*There is a feeling of EU and NATO enlargement fatigue in Europe due to the crisis, but not just because of it. My friends in Macedonia know this very well.*" (dariknews.bg, BG, 5/3). Slovak Foreign Minister and Balkans Expert Miroslav Lajcak commented that "*EU membership is not the same as humanitarian aid*" (Presse-Austria, AT, 6/3).

- Cinco-Dias, ES, 6/2, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130306/mi/item\\_150448413.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130306/mi/item_150448413.pdf)
- dariknews.bg, BG, 5/3, [http://dariknews.bg/view\\_article.php?article\\_id=1050406](http://dariknews.bg/view_article.php?article_id=1050406)
- Presse-Austria, AT, 6/3, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130306/mi/item\\_150448261.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130306/mi/item_150448261.pdf)

Croatian Foreign Minister Vesna Pusić has stated that in order to achieve stabilisation and a European future for the region, the most beneficial measures would be high standards when it comes to reforms and a positive political message. She thus proposed that Serbia gets a date for the start of EU accession negotiations as soon as possible, since this would be a positive political message, which would boost the motivation of countries in the region. Her statement came after a two hour discussion with Serbian Foreign Minister Ivan Mrkić who visited Zagreb on his first official visit (Vecer, SI, 6/3).

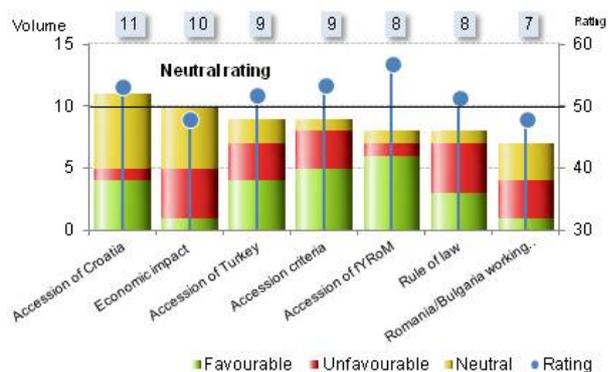
- Vecer, SI, 6/3, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130306/mi/item\\_150448252.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130306/mi/item_150448252.pdf)

## Key Quotes

Gert-Jan Segers: "*The gap between the EU and Turkey is simply too large and it's growing*" (NU.nl, Netherlands, 7/3)  
<http://www.nu.nl/politiek/3361463/vvd-moet-kleur-bekennen-toetreding-turkije-eu.html>

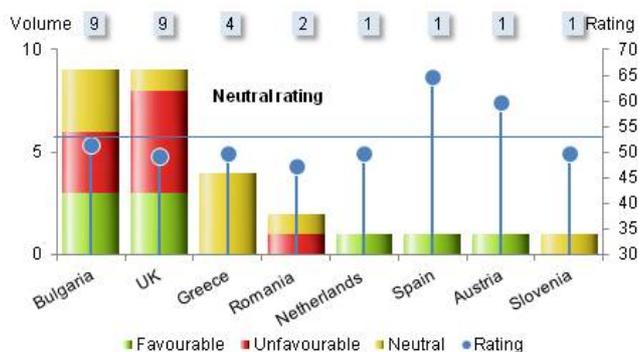
## Charts

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



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ELARG: **Highlights**  
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Volume	28 items
Rating	50.7
Favourable %	28.6%
Unfavourable %	32.1%
Neutral %	39.3%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Hans-Peter Friedrich (Interior Minister, Germany)	4
Päivi Räsänen (Interior Minister, Finland)	4
Franco Frattini (Italian Council of State)	3

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