

Summary

Sta.si (SI, 20/3) reported that the Prime Ministers of Serbia and Kosovo, Ivica Dačić and Hashim Thaçi were meeting in a seventh round of dialogue under the auspices of the EU in Brussels, and would try again to reach an agreement on the north of Kosovo (sta.si, SI, 20/3). Reuters reported this morning however that the talks failed to reach a deal: "We will, I hope, reach conclusions on April 2," Catherine Ashton said at a late-night news conference (Reuters, UK, 21/3) She was also reported as saying "I think we are very close to a solution on the most difficult issues," (Yahoo! UK and Ireland, UK, 21/3)

- sta.si, SI, 20/3, <http://sta.si/vest.php?s=s&id=1867005>
- Reuters UK, 21/3 <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/03/21/uk-serbia-kosovo-idUKBRE92K00P20130321?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews>
- Yahoo! UK and Ireland, UK, 21/3 <http://uk.news.yahoo.com/kosovo-serbia-solution-close-says-eus-ashton-005614532.html#Bt6rfyP>

A conflict between Turkey and the Netherlands about the adoption of the child Yunus, is now also claiming the attention of the EU institutions in Brussels. The boy is being raised by a lesbian Dutch couple, but for cultural-religious reasons, Turkey wants Yunus back. The Turkish government classifies Yunus' current family situation as 'a violation of human rights.' Public opinion in the Netherlands is against Turkey's attitude, ahead of the Turkish Prime Minister's visit to the Netherlands (Telegraaf, NE, 20/3).

- Telegraaf, NE, 20/3, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130320/mi/item_151684607.pdf

Organising fair and democratic elections, as well as conducting a democratic election campaign, are priorities for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYRoM). This is the conclusion drawn after yesterday's meeting between Deputy Prime Minister of European Affairs, Fatmir Besimi, and the Ambassador of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to the fYRoM, Ralph Breth. Besimi's cabinet announced that the purpose of the meeting was to exchange opinions and outline the measures the government of the fYRoM is taking in the organisation of fair and democratic elections (focus-fen.net, BG, 20/3).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 20/3, (no link available)

The Slovenian parliamentary Foreign Policy Committee endorsed ratification of Croatia's EU Accession Treaty in a unanimous vote on Wednesday, which heralds a safe passage at the plenary session of the National Assembly, to be held by the end of March (sta.si, SI, 20/3).

- sta.si, SI, 20/3, <http://www.sta.si/en/vest.php?s=a&id=1867163>

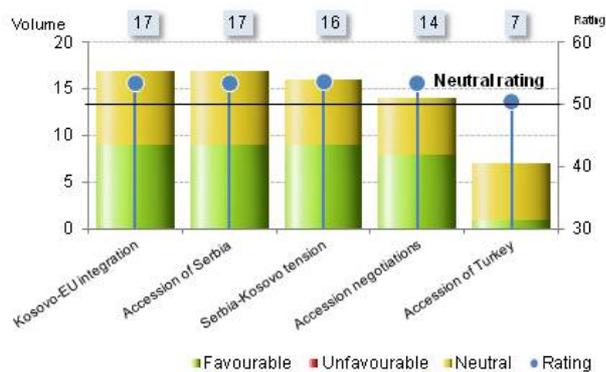
Key Quotes

"The fact that France has recently lifted its block on Chapter 22 is a positive step," said Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. However, he added: **"It is not sufficient; we expect the accession talks, stalled for the last 2 years, to be revitalised"** (euro2day.gr, Greece, 20/3).

<http://www.euro2day.gr/news/highlights/121/articles/765026/Article.aspx>

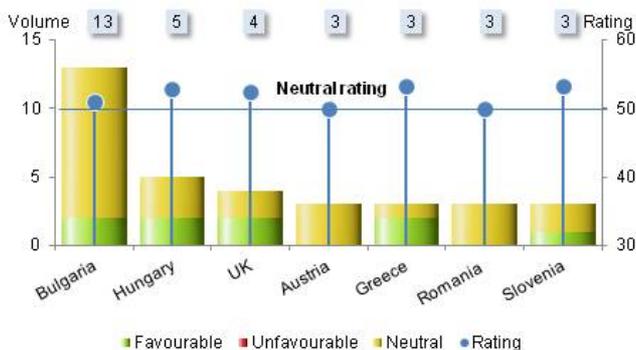
Charts

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ELARG: **Highlights**
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Volume	38 items
Rating	51.8
Favourable %	28.9%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	71.1%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	12
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	11
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	9
Viviane Reding (Justice Commissioner, EC)	8
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	6
Tomislav Nikolić (President, Serbia)	5
Göncz Kinga (Hungarian MEP)	3

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