



Summary

The European Commission did not present its report on the EU progress of Serbia and Kosovo on Tuesday, but arranged for their Prime Ministers to meet the following day in order to try and find common ground relating to Northern Kosovo. (Vecer, 17/4). Kosovo's EU integration minister, Vlora Çitaku tweeted: "Kosovo and Serbian delegations to meet again in Brussels! Let's hope this opportunity won't be missed" (uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 16/4). Kosovo's Foreign Minister, Enver Hoxhaj, was reported as saying that the failure of the negotiations between Pristina and Belgrade is to be blamed on Serbia's President Tomislav Nikolić (Tagesspiegel, DE, 17/4). Diplomats say fiery rhetoric from Albania is far from helpful on the matter or to cement a fragile calm in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYRoM), which flirted with civil war in 2001. "Is nationalism in a form we hear it from Tirana really based on Euro-Atlantic values?" Štefan Füle tweeted last month (trust.org, UK, 16/4). "Today has been a very long and intensive day," said Catherine Ashton at the close of negotiations that began early Wednesday but ended after midnight last night. "I said last time that agreement was close, that the differences were narrow, but deep. I can say with real confidence today that the differences are narrow and very shallow," (Yahoo! UK, 18/4).

- Vecer, SI, 17/4, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130417/mi/item_154312981.pdf
- uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 16/4, <http://uk.news.yahoo.com/serbia-kosovo-meet-again-last-ditch-bid-deal-114559718.html#C0aQ1Da>
- Tagesspiegel, DE, 17/4 (no link available)
- trust.org, UK, 16/4, <http://www.trust.org/alertnet/news/albanian-leaders-fan-flames-of-nationalism-unnerving-west>
- Yahoo! UK, 18/4 <http://uk.news.yahoo.com/serbia-kosovo-talks-fail-once-again-015128649.html#4wsNnQb>

The recommendation about accession negotiations for the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia disappeared from Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle's report, writes Utrinski Vesnik daily. Mr Füle found progress in the areas covered by the report, but the political judgment is formal and does not announce a possible discussion about the start of accession negotiations (focus-fen.net, BG, 17/4). The document said the fYRoM had taken measures to improve bilateral relations with Bulgaria and Greece according to Sega (BG, 17/4). Catherine Ashton, who visited the country on Tuesday, called for immediate solution of the name issue with Greece, writes the Macedonian daily Dnevnik. She said "I am encouraging both countries to use the efforts of UN envoy Matthew Nimetz. I am aware that this could be a difficult decision, but there is no alternative. It is better to happen earlier, than later" (focus-news.net, BG, 17/4). The MEP Jelko Kacin expressed shock at the decision of the European Commission to push ahead with the report on the fYRoM's readiness for the EU (sta.si, SI, 16/4).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 17/4, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n304362>
- Sega, BG, 17/4 (no link available)
- focus-news.net, BG, 17/4, <http://www.focus-news.net/index.php?id=n1772249>
- sta.si, SI, 16/4, <http://sta.si/vest.php?s=s&id=1876753>

Montenegro's opposition has called supporters into the streets to protest against President Filip Vujanović re-election and said it will take allegations of electoral fraud to the courts. The dispute threatens to divert attention from the reforms Montenegro needs to pursue through long talks on membership of the European Union (uk.reuters.com, UK, 16/4).

- uk.reuters.com, UK, 16/4, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/04/16/uk-montenegro-election-opposition-idUKBRE93F10L20130416?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews>

Key Quotes

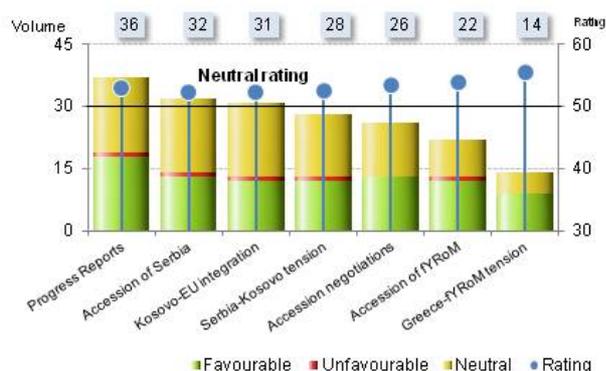
"fYRoM has no territorial claims and presents no threat to Bulgaria. Therefore, there is no need of any specific agreement for good neighbourly relations as good neighbourly relations are built on specific actions rather than paper documents", Nikola Poposki states (Focus News, Bulgaria, 18/4). <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n304425>

"It is clear that there is a limit that Serbia must not cross - the limit is spreading of Priština's institutions over the entire territory of Kosovo and Metohija, in particular the four municipalities in northern Kosovo, as that would mean that the Serbs are disappearing from the area," said Serbian President Tomislav Nikolić (Money.ro, Romania, 17/4).

http://www.money.ro/serbia-nu-va-renunta-la-kosovo-pentru-a-intra-in-ue--reafirma-presedintele-nikolic_1246579.html

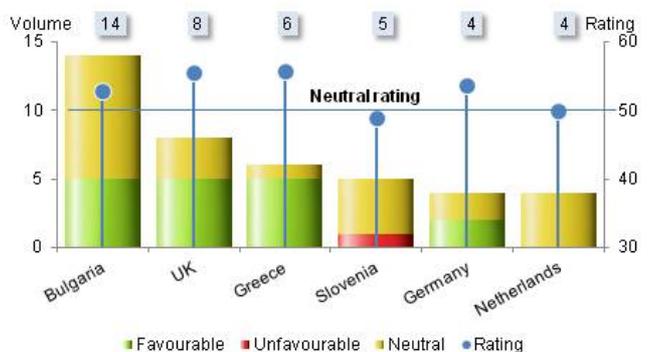
Charts

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by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: **Highlights**
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Volume	49 items
Rating	53.1
Favourable %	42.9%
Unfavourable %	2%
Neutral %	55.1%

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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
by volume, favourability & rating 42.9

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	25
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	23
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	12
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	12
Vlora Çitaku (Minister for European Integration, Kosovo)	5
Nikola Gruevski (President, FYRoM)	3
Dr Sali Berisha (Prime Minister, Albania)	3
Matthew Nimetz (Special Representative for the naming dispute between Greece and the FYRoM, UN)	3

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