

Summary

Last Saturday the Serbian parliament passed by an overwhelming majority an agreement on the normalisation of relations with Kosovo. Ivica Dačić reiterated that the arrangement does not recognise the independence of Kosovo, writes Pravo (CZ, 29/4). He was quoted in rferl.org (CZ, 26/) "*Today our country is devastated and only if we have courage, if we do not lie to ourselves and others, and only if we have a clear vision, then we, our generation, will be able to build a country so that our children don't have to clean up the ruins,*" adding "*This is why we negotiated: to put a stop to the past, to the poverty, and never-ending defeats*".

- Pravo, CZ, 29/4, (no link available)
- rferl.org, CZ, 26/4, <http://www.rferl.org/content/serbia-kosovo-landmark-deal/24969371.html>

Iceland's bid for European Union membership has been thrown into doubt after parties opposed to entry won Saturday's parliamentary elections. "*We took note of the results of the elections, and we obviously congratulate the winners,*" said Peter Stano at the European Commission's regular press briefing in Brussels. "*We understand that talks are now underway to form the new government and the new governing coalition, so that is all I can say at this stage*" (Public Service Europe, UK, 29/4)

- Public Service Europe, UK, 29/4, <http://www.publicserviceeurope.com/article/3401/euroscptic-parties-win-iceland-election>

After many failed attempts at a constitutional reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EU has put any perspective for accession on hold. High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton expressed her deep disappointment during her visit to Sarajevo. Bosnia and Herzegovina must look beyond domestic divisions, beyond political rivalries and vested interests, writes the Standard (AT, 29/4), however it adds that the reason for the paralysis is also due to the structure of the country.

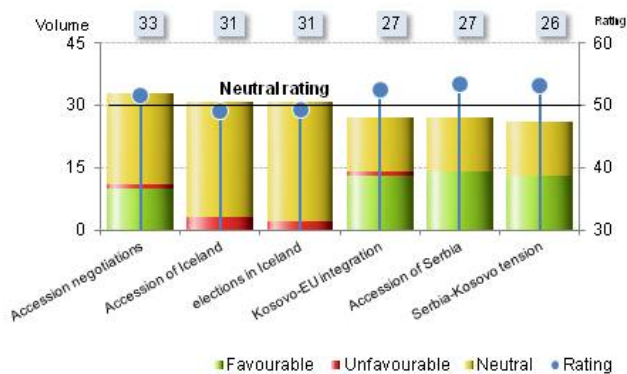
- Standard, AT, 29/4, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130429/mi/item_155429331.pdf

Key Quotes

Frustrated in its attempt to join the EU, Nato-member Turkey has signed up as a partner with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), the security bloc dominated by China and Russia and including the Central Asian states, declaring that its future lies in Asia. "***This is really an historic day for us,***" said Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu (Business New Europe, UK, 29/4) http://www.bne.eu/story4885/Turkey_turns_east_as_it_signs_up_to_SCO_security_bloc

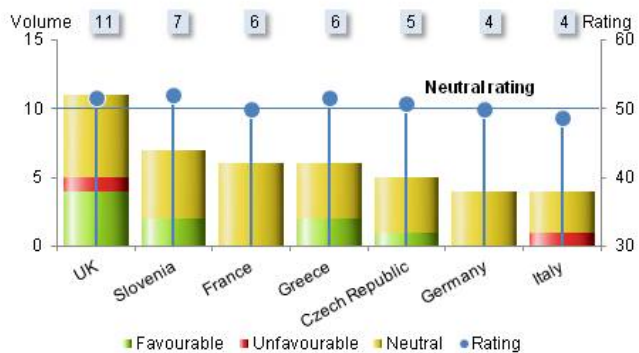
Charts

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Volume	61 items
Rating	51.1
Favourable %	24.6%
Unfavourable %	6.6%
Neutral %	68.8%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Bjarni Benediktsson (Leader of the Independence Party, Iceland)	24
Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir (Prime Minister, Iceland)	16
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	11
Tomislav Nikolić (President, Serbia)	11
Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson (Chairman of the Progressive Party, Iceland)	11
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	9
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	8

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