



Summary

US Representative Dana Rohrabacher, who sits on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, is one of the United States' staunchest supporters of Kosovo's independence. He has noted that, like Kosovo, the United States itself was born out of a struggle for self-determination. In an interview with RFE/RL, Rohrabacher is critical of the EU-brokered agreement reached last month between Belgrade and Pristina, saying it did not create the preconditions for long-term peace and stability in the Balkans (rferl.org, CZ, 2/5). In northern Kosovo, Kosovo Serbians are currently refusing to accept the implementation of the agreement with Pristina. A meeting of government leaders with representatives of the four Serbian municipalities in North Kosovo ended without result (Presse-Austria, AT, 2/5).

- rferl.org, CZ, 2/5, <http://www.rferl.org/content/congressman-kosovo-serbia-agreement/24974648.html>
- Presse-Austria, AT, 2/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130502/mi/item_155673752.pdf

Croatian winemakers have said they will continue to fight a European Union ruling preventing them from using grape variety Teran on wine labels, but their fate lies in the hand of Slovenian politicians. From July 1, Croatia's accession to the EU means it must stop referring to "Teran" on wines for sale within the 28-nation bloc. EU rules state Teran is a protected designation of origin (PDO) belonging solely to Slovenia's Kras region. The rule is a blow to Croatian winemakers looking to raise their profile in key European markets, including the UK. Croatia argues that Teran, or Terrano in Italian, is a generic grape variety and cannot be subject to a PDO. (harpers.co.uk, UK, 2/5)

- harpers.co.uk, UK, 2/5, <http://www.harpers.co.uk/news/news-headlines/13795-croatia-fights-for-right-to-use-teran-on-labels->

Bulgaria's Ambassador to the EU, Dimitar Tsanchev, told DPA Insight, as quoted by Trud daily (BG, 1/5), that discrimination against citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYRoM) who self-identified as Bulgarians, had to be an alert signal for the EU. He added that Bulgaria's patience with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's repressive measures was running out. Mr Tsanchev stated that Bulgaria firmly supported the EU integration of the Western Balkans, as this was the only way to guarantee peace, democracy and well-being in the region. Bulgarian President, Rosen Plevneliev, at a discussion organized by the European Institute in Washington, was quoted as saying that a lot of European Union member states think the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is not ready to start accession negotiations (focus-fen.net, BG, 1/5).

- Trud-Daily-Bulgaria, BG, 1/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130501/mi/item_155656704.pdf
- focus-fen.net, BG, 1/5, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n305486>

In other negotiations it was reported that the Icelandic candidacy floundered not over fish, as might have been expected, but over European Commission-backed British and Dutch arrogance over Icesave, the failed on-line bank (Rzeczpospolita, PL, 2/5).

- Rzeczpospolita, PL, 2/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130502/mi/item_155671301.pdf

On the subject of anniversaries, El Pais (ES, 2/5) writes that the addition of new countries to the EU has increased diversity - democracy and fundamental rights being the only points in common for all the EU members. But the EU has no tools to fight against authoritarian political tendencies such as are occurring in Hungary now. The European Commission is aware of those weak points and realises it is very important to protect the rule of law and human rights in enlargement policies.

- Pais, ES, 2/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130502/mi/item_155677921.pdf

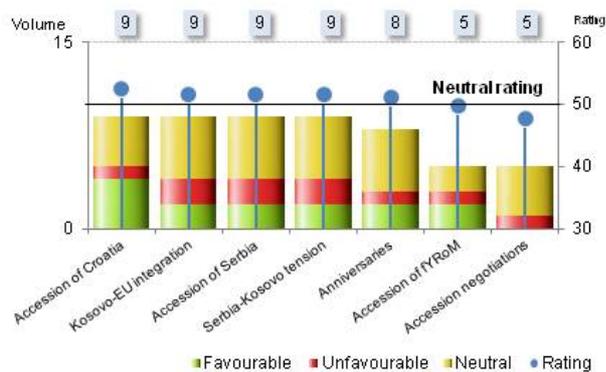
Key Quotes

Der Standard: **"Six years of EU membership were not sufficient to solve even constitutional problems in Bulgaria, while encouraging the rise of new suspicious elites. This is a good reference point for future EU accession talks"** (Focus News, Bulgaria, 3/5).

<http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n305563>

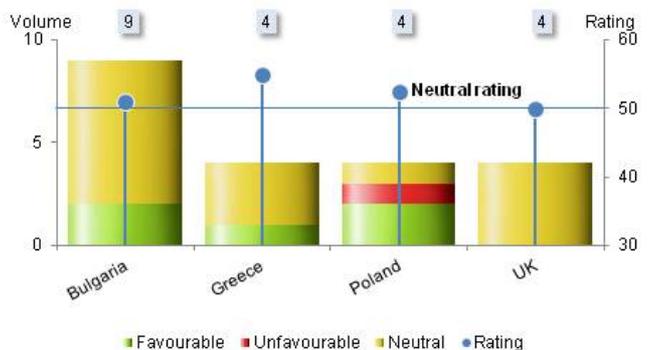
Charts

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Volume	30 items
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Favourable %	26.7%
Unfavourable %	6.7%
Neutral %	66.6%

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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	5
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	3
Dimitar Tsanchev (Bulgarian Ambassador to the EU)	3
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	2
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	2
Rosen Plevneliev (President, Bulgaria)	2
David Cameron (Prime Minister, UK)	2

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