

Summary

In an interview with the Austrian newspaper Kurier (7/5) Serbian Prime Minister, Ivica Dačić, talked about accession negotiations: "*the EU prevents nationalism. We are waiting for good news from Brussels at the EU summit in June. It would increase the EU-sceptical sentiment in Serbia if the EU kept the country waiting even longer. What we need now is a big step forward, this would be important for stability in the entire region as well.*"

- Kurier, AT, 7/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130507/mi/item_156111113.pdf

Serbian Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić said he would pay a visit to Kosovo on May 12 to hold talks with the Kosovo Serbs over the application of the agreement reached in Brussels. He also said there would be a meeting with the Kosovo Serbs in Belgrade. He was reported as having said his conscience was clear (focus-fen.net, BG, 7/5).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 7/5, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n305837>

In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYRoM), coalition partners VMRO-DPMNE and the Democratic Union for Integration (DUI) have no differences over the name issue, said Artan Grubi, Head of the Cabinet of the DUI leader Ali Ahmeti. "*I do not believe we have differences. I think that we have a common position and this is expressed by both the Macedonian Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski and the DUI leader Ali Ahmeti,*" He said that the EU and NATO membership is a priority for all political parties (focus-fen.net, BG, 7/5).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 7/5, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n305829>

The recent elections in Iceland passed off with little attention from the rest of Europe. In reality, they should have been a wake-up call not least because they returned the traditional centre-right coalition to power. This won over a majority of Icelanders, with its promise to turn back the clock to 2008. Back then, households paid lower taxes and mortgages and had no need to consider European Union membership. The two parties have promised to freeze negotiations on accession and let the nation decide whether to continue the negotiations – by 2015 at the latest (publicserviceeurope.com, UK, 7/5).

- publicserviceeurope.com, UK, 7/5, <http://www.publicserviceeurope.com/article/3437/iceland-may-now-wait-until-next-crisis-to-join-the-eu>

The Portuguese government is in favour of an acceleration of negotiations for Turkey's accession to the EU, said Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho. "*Portugal clearly supports the accession negotiations with Turkey*". He added that the discussions held with the European Union had lasted too long. "*We believe that the acceleration of the negotiations would be good news for Turkey and for Europe*" (20minutes.fr, FR, 6/5). Turkish President Abdullah Gül was quoted in Naftemporiki.gr, (EL, 6/5) "*I would like to thank Portugal for its support in the accession negotiations and because has always supported this position.*"

- 20minutes.fr, FR, 6/5, <http://www.20minutes.fr/ledirect/1150991/20130506-portugal-favorable-a-entree-turquie-ue#xtor=RSS-148>
- naftemporiki.gr, EL, 6/5, <http://www.naftemporiki.gr/story/648514>

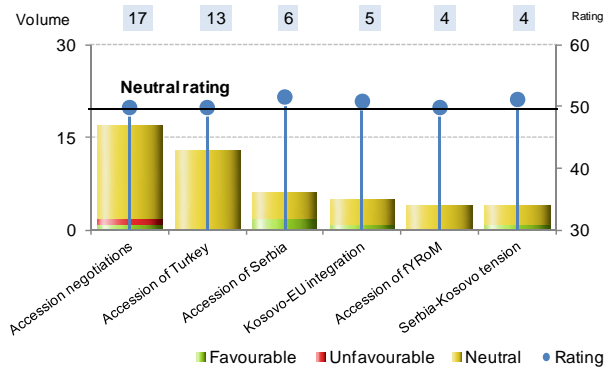
Key Quotes

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen called on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece to find a solution to the name issue. "***We are ready to start the accession talks right after a solution to the name row is found. We encourage both countries to do their best to overcome this issue,***" (Focus News, Bulgaria, 8/5).

<http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n305918>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



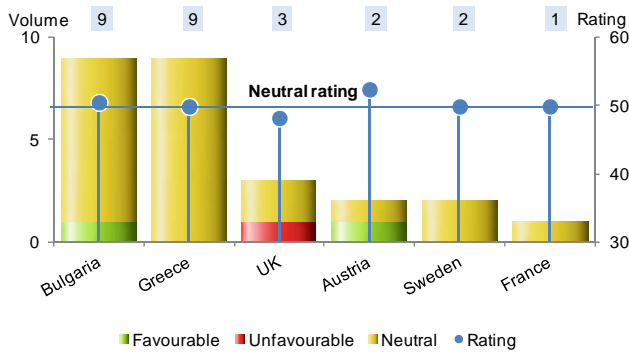
© echo

ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	26 items
Rating	50.2
Favourable %	7.7%
Unfavourable %	3.8%
Neutral %	88.5%

© echo

ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



© echo

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Pedro Passos Coelho (Prime Minister, Portugal)	13
Abdullah Gül (President, Turkey)	13
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	3
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	2
Anibal Cavaco Silva (President, Portugal)	2

Disclaimer: The access to this press report is restricted to European Commission staff. It should not be forwarded or circulated.