



## Key Quotes

Serbia's new climate pledge for the coming UN summit in Paris has been hailed by the European commission as an **"exemplary"** step towards EU accession, even though official figures show that it involves a 15% increase in the country's emissions by 2030. The commission's vice-president for Energy Union, Maroš Šefčovič, praised Serbia's offer regardless, and promised strong backing for its bid to join the EU. **"The EU will continue supporting Serbia – on climate and energy as well as in other fields,"** he said. **"Your success today in adopting Serbia's INDC is an exemplary step on this path"**. However, Garret Tankosić-Kelly, the director of SEChange, a Bosnian think tank, claimed: **"The Serbian offer is a joke, but no one's laughing now that the commission says it is an exemplary step on the path to EU membership."** **"How is the rest of the world supposed to take EU climate promises seriously, when it is demonstrably allowing its candidate countries to cook the books of their climate policies, hoping that no one will notice?"** (The Guardian, UK, 11/6).

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jun/11/european-commission-hails-fiddled-serbian-climate-pledge>

## Summary

### European Parliament Progress Report on Turkey

Turkey must put its reform process at the centre of domestic policy choices and commit unequivocally to democratic rules and principles, which are at the heart of the EU, say MEPs in a resolution on the progress of reform in Turkey in 2014. They urge Turkey to respect media freedom, free expression and judicial independence and welcome the recent parliamentary elections. The European Commission should review the conduct of the EU accession negotiations with Turkey and consider how EU-Turkey relations could be improved and intensified, MEPs say. They also ask the Commission to support the Turkish government's efforts to conclude the peace process with the Kurdish community, through socio-economic and educational programmes in the south-east of Turkey. **"Turkish voters have indicated that they want change. Our reaction should not be to shut the door"** said the rapporteur, Kati Piri. It calls on all political parties to work towards the establishment of a stable and inclusive government which should reinvigorate the democratisation process in Turkey and its reform dialogue with the EU (Balkans.com, UK, 11/6). The Parliament yesterday approved the Progress Report with 432 votes in favour, 94 against and 124 abstentions. (Alithia, CY, 11/6). There were three key sticking points for the Turkish government; the definition of the mass killings of Armenians in 1915 as genocide, declassifying the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) as a terror group and any suggestion of an end to the EU's economic contributions to Turkey (Famagusta-gazette.com, CY, 11/6).

- Balkans.com, UK, 11/6, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=204357>
- Alithia, CY, 11/6, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150611/mi/item\\_252459927.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150611/mi/item_252459927.pdf)
- Famagusta-gazette.com, CY, 11/6, <http://famagusta-gazette.com/turkey-rejects-european-parliament-progress-report-may-affect-cyprus-talks-p28502-69.htm>

### Failed Brussels talks

EU enlargement commissioner Johannes Hahn said he was very disappointed with the attitude of certain parties to resolve a deep crisis in the former Yugoslav Republic Macedonia after political talks in Brussels ended without a deal. He tweeted **"(I am) very disappointed about lack of responsibility and leadership by some"**, without providing more details. The talks in Brussels were set up to hammer out the details of the election as well as needed reforms with most of the country's key political actors in attendance including leaders of the main parties. (eubusiness.com, UK, 11/6).

- eubusiness.com, UK, 11/6, <http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/macedonia-politics.11te/>

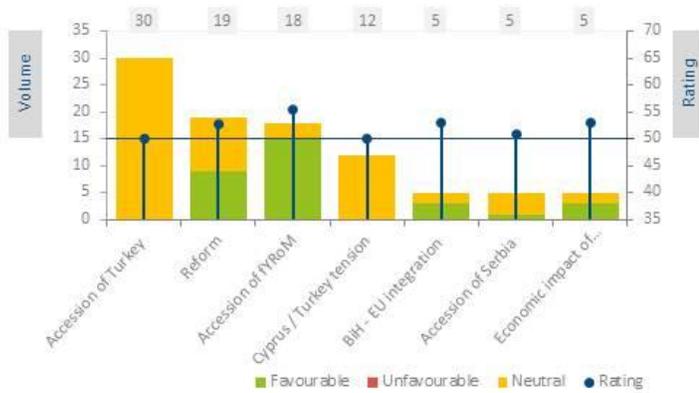
### Energy in the Balkans

The project to build a gas interconnection between Serbia and Bulgaria is one of the European Union's top priorities, according to EU energy chief Maroš Šefčovič. Proposals for the funding of the project pursuant to EU rules for Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) funds are to be discussed with the prime ministers and the ministers in charge, Šefčovic told reporters on Wednesday (Balkans.com, UK, 11/6)

- Balkans.com, UK, 11/6, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=204356>

# Charts

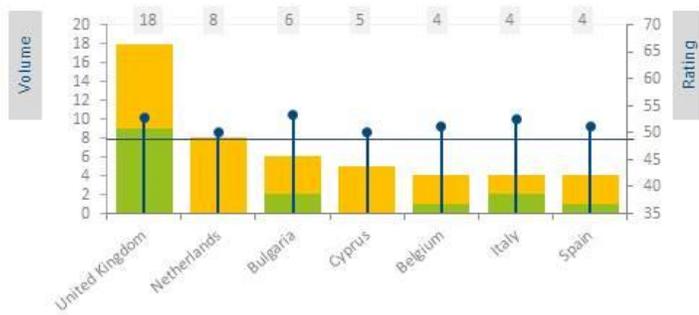
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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement	18
Kati Piri – EP Turkey rapporteur	17
Nikola Gruevski – PM former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	13
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	7
Bogdan Aurescu - FM Romania	5

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