



Key Quotes

Belgrade urges Serbs in Kosovo to accept EU-brokered deal. **"I'm not saying that the agreement is good, but at this stage we could not get anything better,"** said Serbia's Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić (Focus News, Bulgaria, 13/5)

<http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n306327>

German Foreign Minister backs talks for Turkey EU bid. **"We want to overcome the standstill in the membership negotiations,"** Guido Westerwelle said. **"This standstill is not in the interest of Turkey, and it is emphatically not in the interests of Europe either"** (Deutsche Welle, Germany, 12/5)

<http://www.dw.de/german-foreign-minister-westerwelle-backs-talks-for-turkey-eu-bid/a-16808118>

Ahmet Davutoglu, Foreign Minister, Turkey: **"There has been stagnation in Turkish-EU relations. Hopefully we will open a new chapter, but spring doesn't come with one flower"** (Yahoo!, UK, 12/5)

<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/turkey-worried-rising-xenophobia-europe-154801666.html#FsyZiDu>

Summary

The presidents of Slovenia and Croatia, Borut Pahor and Ivo Josipović, committed themselves to the strengthening of friendly relations between their countries in a declaration they signed in Zagreb on Thursday as part of Pahor's official visit to Croatia. They also touched on the Ljubljanska banka issue (sta.si, SI, 9/5). It was also widely reported that the First Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Croatian People's Party, Vesna Pusić, had said that after accession Croatia would not rush to join the euro *"until it has a competitive economy and we are confident that it can prosper under such conditions"* (sigmalive.com, CY, 9/5).

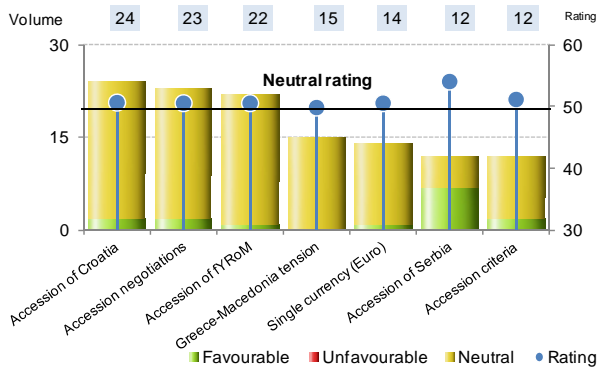
- sta.si, SI, 9/5, <http://sta.si/en/vest.php?s=a&id=1884346>
- sigmalive.com, CY, 9/5, <http://www.sigmalive.com/news/international/44217>

Kosovo Serbs living south of the Ibar river have endorsed an accord reached between Belgrade and Pristina, but Serbs in northern Kosovo rejected it. In an interview with Novi magazine, Serbia's Deputy Prime Minister, Aleksandar Vučić spoke about the progress that had been made convincing Kosovo Serbs to endorse the accord even though there was still some opposition in the Serbian community. He said meetings would continue during his visit to Kosovo on Sunday (ansa.it, IT, 8/5). Enlargement Commissioner, Štefan Füle urged Kosovo and Serbia to spare no effort in upholding last month's landmark normalisation agreement. His remarks came one day after talks between the two sides in Brussels broke down on how to implement the deal. Speaking more widely Füle also called on leaders in Bosnia and Herzegovina to put aside narrow political interests and carry out constitutional reforms that would lift a ban on ethnic minorities like Roma and Jews running for political office. He also expressed concern at the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's continued failure to implement a deal meant to end a parliamentary stalemate between the country's political factions and said the lack of action raised questions about the strength of democratic institutions in that country (rferl.org, CZ, 9/5).

- rferl.org, CZ, 9/5, <http://www.rferl.org/content/interview-fuele-eu-enlargement-fule-stefan/24981706.html>

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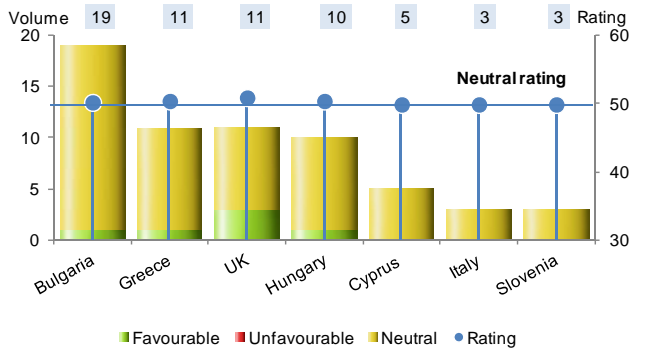
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ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Marin Raykov (caretaker Prime Minister, Bulgaria)	9
Vesna Pusić (Foreign Minister, Croatia)	8
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	6
Matthew Nimetz (Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for the talks between Greece and the FYRoM, UN)	6
Ali Ahmeti (President of the DUI Party, FYRoM)	6
Philip Reeker (Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of European and Eurasian Affairs, US)	6
Joe Biden (Vice President, United States)	6

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