29th JUNE 2015 (MONDAY)



Media Evaluation Summary Report

Key Quotes

Less than two weeks before the Srebrenica massacre's 20th anniversary, Muslims and Eastern Orthodox Serbs in the Bosnian town are as divided as ever. Serbs have put up anti-European Union posters with the words "*Republika Srpska*," or "*Serb Republic*," on a warehouse where Serb forces executed Muslim Bosnians during the 1995 genocide. Bosnia's Muslims want the country to be in in the EU, while Serbs don't (dailymail.co.uk, UK, 28/6).

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3142213/Srebrenica-divided-Serbs-anti-EU-posters.html

The prime minister of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has admitted that delays in starting talks on his country's accession to the EU are "immensely frustrating". In a blunt message to Brussels, Nikola Gruevski said, "The EU needs to apply more pressure on Greece so that our accession talks can begin." Speaking to the Parliament Magazine, Gruevski also spoke of the potentially "destabilising" effect of the current political crisis in former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (theparliamentmagazine.eu, BE, 26/6).

https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/news/eu-urqed-apply-pressure-greece-over-macedonia-accession

Summary

Fourth tranche of EIB money for Montenegro

The European Investment Bank hosted a Montenegrin delegation led by Finance Minister Radoje Žugić at its headquarters in Luxembourg. The main topic of discussions at the meeting was European Investment Bank activity in Montenegro aimed at supporting economic recovery and helping the country to join the European Union. On the same occasion a EUR 10 million loan to the Republic of Montenegro for investment in the water and sanitation sector was signed. The project comprises investment schemes for collecting and treating municipal wastewaters as well as water supply schemes. The schemes are located throughout the country. The project will help to bring Montenegro closer to EU environmental standards, improving environmental services, reducing public health risks and enhancing the region's attractiveness for tourism (etribuna.com, IT, 26/6).

• etribuna.com, IT, 26/6, http://www.etribuna.com/eportale/it/2014-03-20-23-48-00/23854-eib-montenegro-eur-10-million-loan-for-water-and-sanitation-project-signed

European solidarity towards Greece

Responding to questions submitted by MEPs, European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn stated that the EU remains shoulder to shoulder with Greece against any provocative Turkish action. The European Commission once again expressed its serious concerns and called on Turkey to categorically commit to respecting the principle of good neighbourhood relations and the peaceful resolution of differences. The MEPs were referring to the provocative action by the Turkish Defence Minister which questioned International Law and Greek citizenship on 16 Greek islands by stating that these were the territory of the Turkish Republic (Phileleftheros, CY, 26/6).

Phileleftheros, CY, 26/6, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150626/mi/item_254696826.pdf

Hope for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The prime minister has rejected opposition demands for his resignation to help defuse a political crisis in the Balkan country. However, Nikola Gruevski said he was ready to accept opposition proposals over the allocation of electoral and ministry posts. The government and opposition will meet again in the capital on Monday in talks mediated by the EU and US aimed at resolving entrenched differences about a transitional administration. Zoran Zaev, the opposition leader, told the FT that this was the last chance for Mr Gruevski to ensure a fair election by agreeing to resign before the vote (ft.com, UK, 25/6). Three MPs with the coalition of the opposition Social Democratic Union of Macedonia, who took their mandates and refused to join party's boycott of the parliament, became members of the parliamentary committees on control on the work of the Security and Counterintelligence Directorate and the Intelligence Agency. This will allow the functioning of the two committees which were criticised in the European Commission's report (focus-news.net, BG, 26/6).

- ft.com, UK, 25/6, http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/755ce4a0-1b47-11e5-8201-cbdb03d71480.html#axzz3e8npnv90
- focus-news.net, BG, 26/6, http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/06/26/376446/utrinski-vesnik-macedonia-reserve-opposition-to-supervise-security-counterintelligence-service.html



Charts



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