

Key Quotes

The deal between Serbia and its breakaway province was signed in Brussels under the mediation of EU Foreign Affairs High Representative Catherine Ashton. **"What we are seeing is a step away from the past and, for both of them, a step closer to Europe,"** commented Ashton (Novinite, Bulgaria, 15/5)

http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=150409

Nebojša Radmanović, Bosnian Serb politician: **"EU bureaucrats do not understand us"** (Die Presse Online, Austria, 14/5)

http://diepresse.com/home/politik/aussenpolitik/1402046/Bosnien_EUBuerokraten-verstehen-uns-nicht?_vl_backlink=/home/politik/aussenpolitik/index.do

Summary

Polish President Bronisław Komorowski and Croatian President Ivo Josipović came together on Monday to attend the EU Funding - Opportunities and Challenges seminar in the Croatian capital (thenews.pl, PL, 13/5) Joining the European Union in July offers Croatia the opportunity to benefit from full access to the single European market and European funds, but a prerequisite for efficient use of European funds is to accelerate reforms (athina984.gr, EL, 13/5). The President of Croatia, Ivo Josipović, thanked Polish president Bronisław Komorowski for supporting his country's successful bid to join the EU on 1 July. **"Polish efforts and friendship has been of great importance,"** President Josipović said at a joint press conference. The Eastern Partnership initiative, championed by Poland and Sweden to bring former communist countries closer to the EU, **"has given an excellent example of how to develop cooperation with potential future members and candidates for the European Union"**, Josipović said, adding that further enlargement of the EU is a strategic goal for Croatia (thenews.pl, PL, 14/5).

- thenews.pl, PL, 13/5, <http://www.thenews.pl/1/10/Artykul/135448,Polish-president-begins-Croatia-state-visit>
- athina984.gr, EL, 13/5, <http://www.athina984.gr/node/241082>
- thenews.pl, PL, 14/5, <http://www.thenews.pl/1/10/Artykul/135560,Croatia-thanks-Poland-for-EU-support>

"Hungary is committed to the EU enlargement in the Western Balkans, and seeks to enforce Serbia's political interests in the integration process," said Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, János Martonyi (Magyar-Nemzet, HU, 14/5). The Foreign Minister said **"Hungary wants to set a date for the start of accession negotiations with Serbia to the EU in June during the European Council meeting"** (Nepszabadsag, HU, 14/5). Serbia has formed working groups for 35 chapters of the EU accession negotiations (imerisia.gr, EL, 13/5) however writing in Süddeutsche Zeitung (DE, 14/5) Metropolitan Amfilohije complained about the agreement between Serbia and Kosovo, which was born under pressure from the EU. He said that Europe had **"established a Nazi-Fascist occupation of Kosovo"**. Prime Minister Ivica Dačić, Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić and President Tomislav Nikolić consisted of **"three traitors"** who did not believe in God, but in the EU and NATO.

- Magyar-Nemzet, HU, 14/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130514/mi/item_156703263.pdf
- Nepszabadsag, HU, 14/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130514/mi/item_156703207.pdf
- imerisia.gr, EL, 13/5, <http://www.imerisia.gr/article.asp?catid=26511&subid=2&pubid=113042312>
- Süddeutsche Zeitung, DE, 14/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130514/mi/item_156686050.pdf

According to Turkish daily Milliyet, EU Council President Herman Van Rompuy will visit Turkey on 23 May. The daily notes that this is the first visit to Turkey by van Rompuy since he was elected three years ago, ending an **"embargo"** against Turkey amidst indications that relations between Turkey and the EU are being rekindled and calls by EU member states for a push in the country's EU accession talks (Haravgi, CY, 14/5). The story was also picked up by sigmalive.com (CY, 13/5) which commented that Mr Van Rompuy had visited many countries, candidate countries and non-EU and countries like Azerbaijan and Armenia, but for three years had excluded any visit to Turkey.

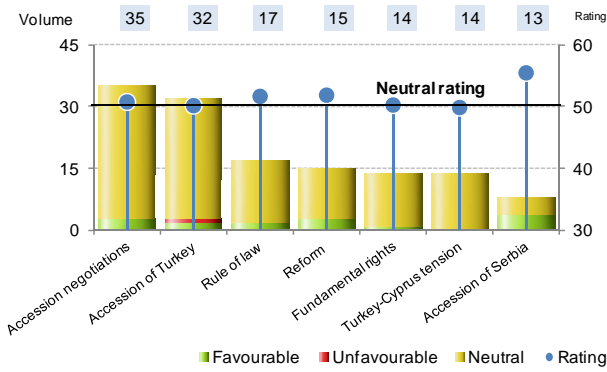
- Haravgi, CY, 14/5, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130514/mi/item_156700104.pdf
- sigmalive.com, CY, 13/5, <http://www.sigmalive.com/news/politics/44861>

Approximately 230,000 inhabitants of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYRoM), or 11% of the population, left the country during the period 1998 - 2011, according to data published by Eurostat. Most of them, about 170,000 emigrated to EU countries, especially Italy, Germany, Austria and Slovenia. The former UK Minister Lord Mandelson came under fire for boasting about how Labour encouraged millions of immigrants to flock to Britain (Daily-Express, UK, 14/5).

- Daily-Express, UK, 14/5, (link not available)

Charts

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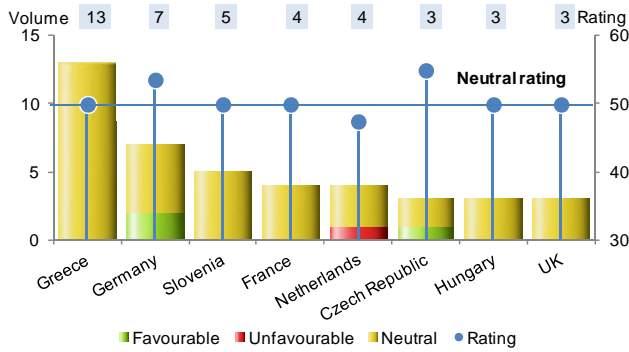
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Volume	51 items
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Neutral %	80.4%

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ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Guido Westerwelle (Foreign Minister, Germany)	28
Ahmet Davutoğlu (Foreign Minister, Turkey)	27
Angela Merkel (Chancellor, Germany)	15
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	5
Ivo Josipović (President, Croatia)	4
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	3

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