



Key Quotes

Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić said that the problem of border demarcation between Serbia and Croatia at the Danube island of Sarengradska Ada could be resolved through dialogue **"in good faith,"** otherwise the case would have to be referred to international arbitration. **"I hope we will be able to resolve this with Zagreb in good faith, as good neighbours. I think that there will be good will for that both in Zagreb and Belgrade. And if not, we will have the strength to agree to go to arbitration,"** Vučić added (dalje.com, HR, 24/7).

<http://dalje.com/en-croatia/vucic-hopes-border-dispute-with-croatia-to-be-resolved-through-dialogue/551195>

Summary

Serbian cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina

Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić said that the Serbian government had decided to send teams to Sarajevo to discuss four sectors – infrastructure, energy, tourism and defence industries. Vučić told reporters in the Serbian city of Niš, following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the government of Serbia and Johnson Electric, that better economic cooperation enables better political relations. The Prime Minister recalled that German Chancellor Angela Merkel also praised the economic reforms undertaken by the government of Serbia and announced upcoming talks with the IMF in August aimed at increasing public sector wages and pensions. This increase will take place gradually and will be on solid footing so as not to damage the public finances, Vučić said (Balkans.com, UK, 24/7).

- Balkans.com, UK, 24/7, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=205557>

Debate over European Union funds in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The country's opposition accuses the current government of abuse of these funds, especially the IPARD funds for agriculture. The Macedonian Social Democratic Union asked the Minister of Agriculture and the EU ambassador, Aivo Orav, why they are allowing IPARD funds, which are allocated for farmers, to end up in the hands of local authorities. *"We have information that two thirds of the money allocated for farmers have ended up in the accounts of communes"* they say. Minister of Agriculture, Mihail Cvetkov, declared that the funds are not being misused, but are being used to improve infrastructure for farmers (balkaneu.com, GR, 24/7).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 24/7, <http://www.balkaneu.com/debates-abuse-eu-funds-fyrom/>

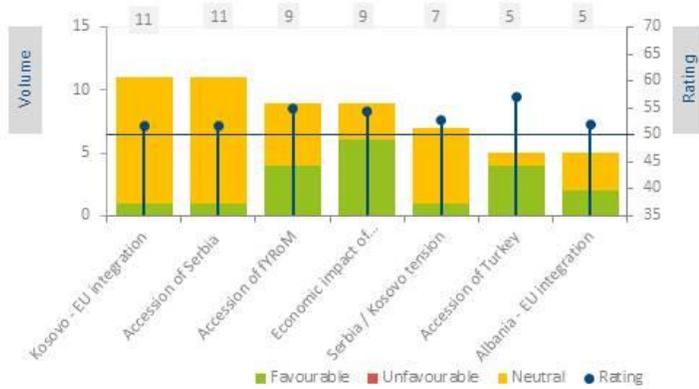
Tension between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia

Bosnia and Herzegovina Foreign Minister, Igor Crnadak, has said there is no reason for tension with Croatia over the planned construction of the Pelješac Bridge. He said in a statement *"we have on the table two entirely legitimate demands. One is Croatian, asking that Croatia be able to connect its southernmost part with the rest of the country and the other is Bosnia's which is asking that it be able to preserve its access to international waters. I am confident we can reach an agreement through dialogue"*. Asked to comment on Croatian Prime Minister Zoran Milanović's assertion that he could not find partners for dialogue in Bosnia regarding the Pelješac bridge, he said that *"as far as the incumbent Council of Ministers is concerned, we are ready and we expect Croatia to fulfil its obligations regarding the appointment of members of the joint commission for the implementation of the agreement on border crossings and the commission on cross border traffic"* adding that Bosnia had already appointed members to these commissions (Dalje.com, HR, 24/7).

- Dalje.com, HR, 24/7, <http://dalje.com/en-croatia/croatia-bosnia-can-solve-peljesac-bridge-issue-through-dialogue/551131>

Charts

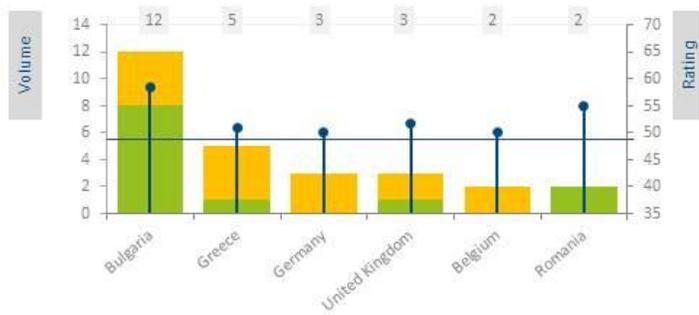
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Federica Mogherini – HR Foreign Affairs	6
Daniel Mitov - FM Bulgaria	6
Corina Crețu - Regional Policy	2
Rosen Plevneliev - President Bulgaria	2

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