



Key Quotes

Kosovo applies to join UNESCO, Serbia says it's not a state. Serbia's Foreign Minister Ivica Dačić insisted that Kosovo is still a U.N.-administered territory and said its membership in UNESCO would violate U.N. rules. Dačić also warned that the desecration of Serbian monasteries in Kosovo is continuing, calling this one way **"of intimidating the remaining Orthodox population in the province."** **"Since June 1999, 236 churches, monasteries and other sites owned by the Serbian Orthodox Church, as well as cultural-historical monuments, have been targets of attacks,"** Dačić told the council. Taçi responded that UNESCO World Heritage sites in Kosovo **"are safe, or safer than they have been in the last 1000 years,** adding that **"our police force protects 95 percent of the sites of the Serbian Orthodox Church."** (yahoo!, UK, 22/8)

<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/kosovo-applies-join-unesco-serbia-says-not-state-001604303.html#6k4WRcT>

The EU has only provided symbolic assistance to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as the country is dealing with a surging migrant influx, Foreign Minister Nikola Poposki has said: **"We are expecting treatment from the EU as [if we were] a EU member state"** (novinite.com, BG, 22/8).

<http://www.novinite.com/articles/170490/EU+Assistance+in+Macedonia+Migrant+Issue+'Largely+Symbolic'#sthash.vqD4Mp3k.dpu>

Summary

Croatian market will be flooded with Bosnian milk

Four Bosnian dairies will be able to export their products to Croatia from 26 August, which will further destabilise the Croatian dairy sector. Croatia was importing large quantities of dairy products from Bosnia for years, but that practice was interrupted, following the accession of Croatia to the EU. MEP Marijana Petir believes one problem is that Croatia left any trade negotiations with Cefta members to the EC. Bosnia is the only Cefta country not to have adopted the trade agreement but despite the initial EC banning of Bosnian daily products' import, it has now restored the right, which was surely a political decision (Poslovni Dnevnik, HR, 21/8).

- Poslovni Dnevnik, HR, 21/8, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150821/mi/item_261743755.pdf

Serbia Kosovo tension

The Association of Serb Communes has prompted strong debate in Kosovo. The Serb side says that the association with executive powers will be an instrument of stability and progress for communities in Kosovo. The Kosovo side insists that this institution should work in compliance with the laws of Kosovo, while the opposition is warning of the division of Kosovo. The head of the Kosovo Office within the Serb Government, Marko Đurić, says that Serbian representatives in the talks with Pristina next week will go to Brussels with a mandate for the Serb people in Kosovo to create their Association. Đurić says that the association will regulate the life of Serbs and it doesn't aim at dividing Kosovo. *"Why should we divide something which is ours in its entirety? Belgrade wants the association to be funded by Serbia. This would enable it to function according to the Serb system"* he says (balkaneu.com, GR, 21/8).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 21/8, <http://www.balkaneu.com/association-serb-communes-prompts-strong-debates-pristina-belgrade/>

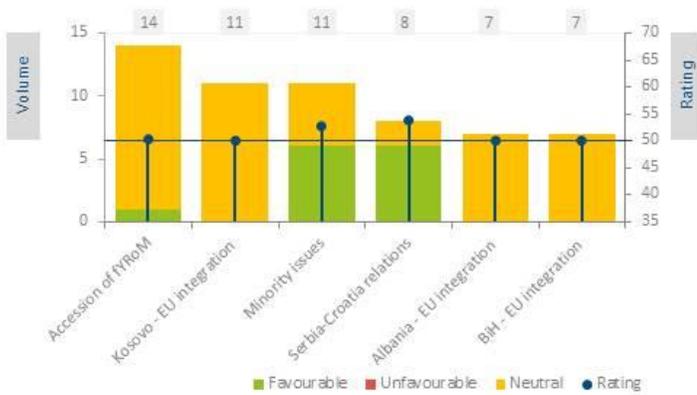
The EC says the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has the right to control refugees

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has the right under international law to monitor people who wish to enter its territory and prohibit entry to those who do not meet the criteria, the office of EU Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn noted. *"The Commission knows about the government's decision to declare an emergency situation in areas along the southern and northern borders. The Commission is ready to continue giving humanitarian assistance to Macedonia"* it added (24chasa.bg, BG, 21/8). The Balkan country declared a state of emergency on its northern and southern borders on Thursday after weeks of chaotic scenes at a border railway station inundated daily by up to 2,000 migrants and refugees crossing from Greece en route to Hungary and Europe's borderless Schengen zone (uk.reuters.com, UK, 21/8).

- 24chasa.bg, BG, 21/8, <http://www.24chasa.bg/Article.asp?ArticleId=4935503>
- uk.reuters.com, UK, 21/8, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/08/21/uk-europe-migrants-macedonia-idUKKCNOQQ0M120150821>

Charts

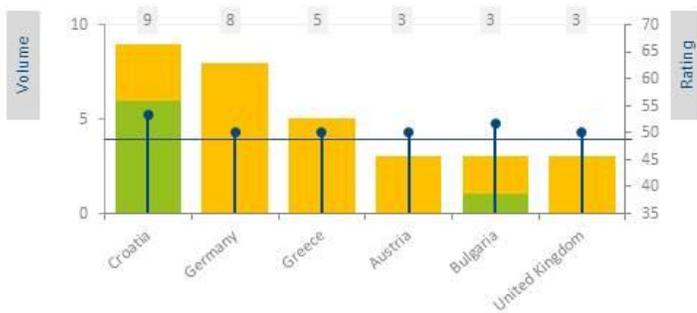
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| Christian Wigand - EC Spokesperson | 6 |
| Ivica Dačić - Serbian FM | 3 |
| Ban Ki-Moon - UN Secretary General | 2 |

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