

## Key Quotes

European foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said that Europe had to work together to tackle the **"challenge"** of the migrant crisis rocking the continent. **"Again, from a European perspective we are asking Turkey to do more. Turkey itself is hosting millions of refugees, we should be aware of that and we are already supporting Turkey in this. But again, what we should do more is to work together with Turkey and other countries, not only to support them in hosting this large number of refugees, but also to help in the management of the flow and most of all to try to solve the root cause,"** she said (ibtimes.co.uk, UK, 24/8).

<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/eu-chief-blame-game-not-helpful-europes-tackling-migrant-crisis-1516872>

**"Bulgaria is ready to help neighbouring Macedonia meet the requirements for joining the European Union and NATO,"** Bulgaria's Foreign Minister Daniel Mitov said. He also said that **"increased migrant influx to Macedonia highlights the need to strengthen considerably the European integration of the countries of the western Balkans"** (novinite.com, BG, 24/8).

<http://www.novinite.com/articles/170510/Bulgaria+Pledges+Support+for+Macedonia%E2%80%99s+Integration+into+EU,+NATO>

## Summary

### A Marshall Plan for the Western Balkans

Germany and Austria owe their post-war development to the Marshall Plan, writes Dujkim Dobruna, head of the Economic Initiative for Kosovo (ECIKS) in a contributing article in Der Standard (AT, 24/8). The Balkans conference offers the opportunity to develop a similar plan with the help of the EU which would improve life in the Balkans in the long run. This Marshall Plan should bundle existing EU support programmes and create new programmes. The advantages outweigh the costs, according to Mr Dobruna. In his column in Die Presse (AT, 24/8) Hans Winkler examines the challenges of the conference and suggest that while the citizens place considerable hopes in an accession to the EU, the leadership is losing interest – the, in part, oligarchic structures would not survive accession to the EU. The associated loss in influence of the existing member countries is another reason for the declining interest in an accession.

- Der Standard, AT, 24/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item\\_262045672.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item_262045672.pdf)
- Die Presse, AT, 24/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item\\_262045694.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item_262045694.pdf)

### I am convinced that we are a safe country of origin

In an interview Montenegro's Prime Minister Milo Đukanović expresses his conviction that Montenegro is rightly labelled as a safe country of origin, as the EU accession process requires and he says that the country complies with very high standards. By developing the economy and infrastructure, he hopes to reduce emigration. However he criticises the EU's lack of a coherent and sustained policy for the Western Balkans; he says a long-term EU strategy is needed for the region's further development though on a positive note he remarks that since the Western Balkans conference that Angela Merkel initiated last year, the European Commission has initiated significant projects (Handelsblatt, DE, 23/8). Numbers of asylum seekers from Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina have risen by 23% while the number for Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro, which are not classified as safe, rose by 515% (Die Tageszeitung, DE, 24/8).

- Handelsblatt, DE, 23/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item\\_262030494.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item_262030494.pdf)
- Die Tageszeitung, DE, 24/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item\\_262030474.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item_262030474.pdf)

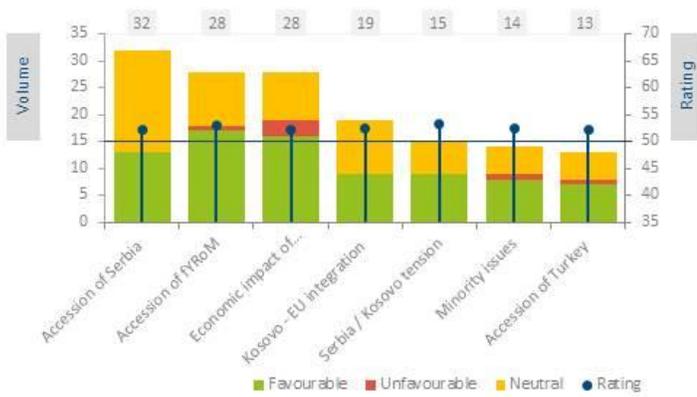
### Erdoğan's bloody fight for power

In an opinion piece, Frank Nordhausen (Berliner Zeitung, DE, 24/8) addresses the new elections in Turkey. While most Europeans focus on the Ukraine conflict, they do not realise that Turkey is about to slide into chaos and war, he cautions. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is trying to extend his power in order to avoid a coalition. The opposition is right to call Mr Erdoğan's actions a **"cold coup"**. Mr Nordhausen concludes that the support for democracy in Turkey should be on top of [Europe's] political priority list.

- Berliner Zeitung, DE, 24/8. [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item\\_262030496.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150824/mi/item_262030496.pdf)

# Charts

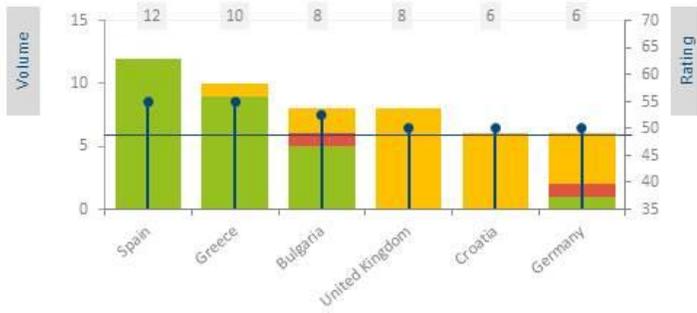
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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Federica Mogherini – HR Foreign Affairs	25
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	13
Catherine Ray - EC Spokesperson	12
Aleksandar Vučić - PM Serbia	8
Isa Mustafa - Prime Minister Kosovo	8
Hashim Thaçi - FM Kosovo	6
Ivica Dačić – FM Serbia	5

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