



## Key Quotes

The EU are '**concerned**' by the Turkish arrest of British reporters. "**We are concerned... by the recent arrests of the Vice News journalists in Turkey on terrorism-related charges,**" EU diplomatic service spokeswoman Maja Kocijancic told a news briefing in Brussels. "**Any country negotiating EU accession needs to guarantee respect for human rights, including freedom of expression, in line with the European Convention of Human Rights,**" Kocijancic added (eubusiness.com, UK, 1/9).

<http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/turkey-kurds-media.143t>

## Summary

### Media under threat in Turkey

Turkish police raided the offices of a conglomerate with close links to U.S.-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, an ally-turned-foe of President Tayyip Erdogan, company officials said on Tuesday. Erdogan, who wants to win back a majority for his ruling AK Party in a snap election on November 1st, says Gulen has established a parallel structure within the state through supporters in the judiciary, police and other institutions including the media. The state-run Anadolu Agency said 23 companies within the Koza İpek group were being searched on suspicion of providing financial support for the Gulenist Terrorist Group. No one from the police was immediately available to comment. Erkan Akkuş, news editor at Kanalturk and Bugun TV which are part of Koza İpek's media business, said "*It is wrong to see this as aimed just at our group. They are starting with us to test the waters and if it doesn't spark an outcry, it could then spread to other media groups*" (uk reuters, UK, 1/9). In a separate incident Kathimerini (CY, 1/9) reports that two British journalists have been arrested which is increasing concern about press freedom in Turkey.

- uk reuters, UK, 1/9, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/09/01/uk-turkey-politics-gulen-idUKKCN0R12T420150901>
- Kathimerini, CY, 1/9, <http://www.kathimerini.com.cy/index.php?pageaction=kak&modid=1&artid=217332>

### Opposition MPs in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia return to parliament

The return of the opposition led by the SDSM comes as a result of the political agreement for the solution of the political crisis reached on June 2nd brokered by EU enlargement commissioner, Johannes Hahn. Leader of the SDSM, Zoran Zaev declared that the opposition is returning to parliament with the aim of voting the bill on the Special Prosecutor and other electoral bills. Zaev underlined that with the return in parliament, the opposition is assisting the solution of the political crisis. Under the political agreement, parliament will elect an interim government which will oversee the 24th April 2016 elections (balkaneu.com, GR, 1/9).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 1/9, <http://www.balkaneu.com/macedonian-opposition-return-parliament-today/>

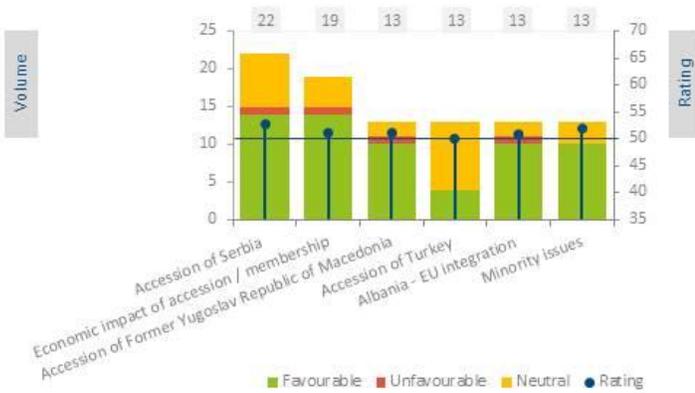
### Enlargement worries

The Presidents of Slovenia and Croatia, Borut Pahor and Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, in a letter to the President of European Council Donald Tusk have suggested that the postponement of the enlargement process in conjunction with the economic crisis and the current security challenges have made the region more vulnerable to external destabilizing factors. The EU enlargement process is "*the primary guarantee for the long-term stability and development of the region and that this should not become merely a technical exercise*" noted the letter (athina984.gr, GR, 1/9).

- athina984.gr, GR, 1/9, <http://www.athina984.gr/node/357652>

# Charts

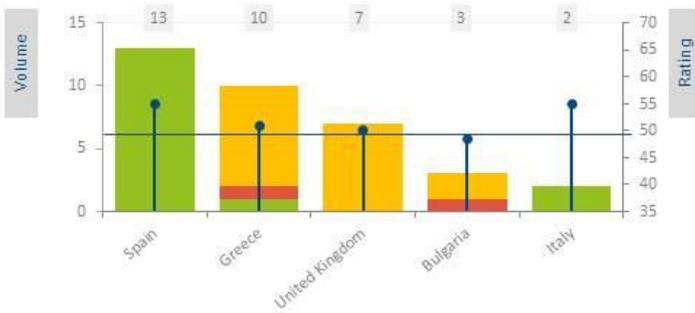
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Federica Mogherini – HR Foreign Affairs	10
Angela Merkel - German Chancellor -	5
Jean-Claude Juncker – President EC	4
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	3
Edi Rama - Albania PM	3

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