24th SEPTEMBER 2015 (THURSDAY)



DG NEAR – 24th SEPTEMBER 2015 Media Evaluation Summary Report

Key Quotes

Headlined 'Turkey stands ready to help EU with crisis', Selim Yenel, Ambassador of Turkey to the EU, writes that "We've been handling the Syrians for the past four years without much fuss. Maybe that has been our mistake. We should have complained. The EU has treated the crisis in a manner that does not befit it. This is a common problem and we should be able to manage it together". He continues: "We need a strong, self-confident EU that offers solutions rather than being unsure of how to handle the problems" (ft.com, UK, 23/9).

http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/9206661c-6151-11e5-a28b-50226830d644.html#axzz3mdLijHW7

On the Croatian-Serbian border dispute, Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić has sent a letter to EU officials asking for an explanation of "*the brutal violation of the SAA*" that Serbia signed with the organization (wienerzeitung.at, AT, 23/9). http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/europa/europastaaten/776269 Kroatisch-serbischer-Grenzstreit.html

Summary

Western Balkans not a dumping ground says Hahn

The European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, criticized the possibility of returning refugees, Macedonian Vecer daily writes. According to Hahn, the Western Balkans countries should not become victims of the EU's problem and the EU should find an internal solution. Vecer says the authorities in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have not commented on how they will protect the country and what solution they will propose to prevent the possibility of hundreds of thousands of migrants arriving on Macedonia's territory in case the EU starts to adhere to the readmission agreement (focus-news.net, BG, 23/9).

• focus-news.net, BG, 23/9, http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/09/23/384040/vecer-macedonia-eu-returning-refugees-could-cause-clashes-on-balkans.html

Tension in Kosovo

The Prime Minister of Kosovo was pelted with eggs on Tuesday as he defended granting more powers to the country's Serb minority (The Independent, UK, 23/9). The Brussels' agreements reached between Kosovo and Serbia has deepened the political crisis in Kosovo. In the coming days, the opposition has warned of action which aims at blocking the work of the government and parliament. Majority representatives say that the Brussels's agreements aim at normalizing relations with Serbia as a condition for the integration of Kosovo into Euro Atlantic structures, but the opposition says that the Association of Serb Communes threatens the sovereignty of the country. Experts on the political developments in Kosovo say that both the government and opposition are to be blamed for the current crisis. Analyst Vilhard Shala accuses the government of not being transparent about the talks with Belgrade. "The public and opposition should have been informed on the content of the agreements reached in Brussels before they were signed" (balkaneu.com, GR, 23/9).

- The Independent, UK, 23/9, http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/kosovo-pm-pelted-with-eggs-in-parliament-10513727.html
- balkaneu.com, GR, 23/9, http://www.balkaneu.com/political-crisis-kosovo-deepens-2/

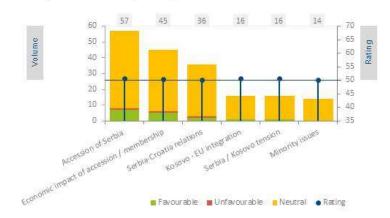
Serbia activates the EU's civil protection mechanism

Serbia on Tuesday activated the EU's civil protection mechanism to help cope with the influx of refugees and asylum seekers in the country. EU commissioner for humanitarian aid and crisis management, Christos Stylianides, said member states now need to send Belgrade support teams. "We are in close contact with the authorities in Belgrade to help coordinate the swift delivery of material support offered by participating states" he said in a statement. Meanwhile, Serbia's border with Croatia is causing tensions among former Yugoslav republics. A queue of trucks on the Belgrade-Zagreb highway was 12 km long on Tuesday after Croatia closed the border. "Serbia must issue a reply to the destruction of its economic integrity and national policy" said Serbia's Prime Minister, Aleksandar Vučić (euobserver.com, BE, 23/9).

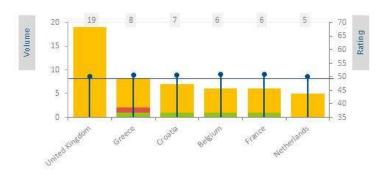
• euobserver.com, BE, 23/9, https://euobserver.com/migration/130382

Charts

ELARG: **Leading Daily Issues** by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: Highlights

by volume, overall rating and percentage favourability

Volume	66 items
Rating	50.7
Favourable %	13.6%
Unfavourable %	1.5%
Neutral %	84.9%

ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources

by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Aleksandar Vučić - PM Serbia	34
Isa Mustafa - Prime Minister of Kosovo	15
Zoran Milanović - PM Croatia	14
Christos Stylianides - Aid & Crisis Management	76
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	5
Angela Merkel - German Chancellor	5

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