

Key Quotes

Serbia's approach to refugees passing through its territory is "**more European**" than those of some EU states, Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić said. "**I have to say that we acted from time to time in even a more European way than some European countries, and we will stay on that path**". He added: "**We want to share the responsibility, we want to send a very clear message that we belong to that club even under that very difficult circumstances**" (ibox.bg, BG, 1/10).

http://news.ibox.bg/news/id_1834089437

Serbia has protested against Kosovo's presence at a UN conference on terrorism, while Serbian President Tomislav Nikolić has asked the world body to reject Pristina's bid to join UNESCO, the UN's educational, cultural, and scientific organization. "**If this [UNESCO membership] request gets accepted, it will create precedent ... it can legitimize violence toward national, cultural, and religious identity of any nation in the world,**" Nikolić said (tol.org, CZ, 1/10).

<http://www.tol.org/client/article/25051-serbia-objects-to-kosovos-presence-at-un-terrorism-talks.html>

Summary

US intelligence warns of an Orthodox Union

If the USA continues its policy of complete support for Albanians after the terrorist attacks in Kumanovo in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the EU continues being silent on the project for the establishment of a Greater Albania, this could lead to an orthodox union between Serbia, Greece, Bulgaria and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as well as a third Balkan war, a report of the Central Intelligence Agency on the situation in the region, Macedonian television Sitel reports. According to the report, Washington's massive support for Albanians could make the Balkan countries move much closer to Russia and therefore a more balanced approach is needed (focus-news.net, BG, 1/10).

- focus-news.net, BG, 1/10, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/10/01/384809/sitel-serbia-greece-bulgaria-macedonia-can-establish-orthodox-union-against-greater-albania-project.html>

Press freedom in Turkey continues under threat

In the latest sign of deteriorating conditions for the media under President Tayyip Erdoğan, Ahmet Hakan, a columnist for Turkey's leading secular Hürriyet newspaper and a host on broadcaster CNN Turk, was assaulted near his home. The attack comes just weeks after prosecutors launched an investigation into the paper's owner, Doğan Media Group, for alleged terrorism propaganda. Hürriyet has been singled out for criticism from Erdogan as the government struggles to control a surge in Kurdish militant violence in the southeast. (Dailymail.co.uk, UK, 1/10). In an initial reaction, a senior AKP official denounced the attack. "*Turkey is democracy, there is a state of law. We do not approve of or accept this attack*". Doğan Media and its listed parent Doğan Holding are no strangers to Erdoğan's ire. In May, the group was suspended from state tenders after Erdogan accused its head, Aydin Doğan, of being a "coup lover" and described its media columnists as "charlatans". Turkey has dropped down press freedom league tables under Erdoğan, currently ranking 149th out of 180 in the Reporters Without Borders Press Freedom Index (UK Reuters, UK, 1/10).

- Dailymail.co.uk, UK, 1/10, <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-3255894/Prominent-Turkish-journalist-attacked-latest-sign-pressure-media.html>
- UK Reuters, UK, 1/10, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/10/01/turkey-press-attacks-idUKL5N1210OF20151001>

Tension in Kosovo over Serb communities

Representatives of opposition in Kosovo will continue their action to block parliamentary proceedings. "*On August 25, Prime Minister Isa Mustafa signed an agreement in Brussels. Nobody has the mandate to sign such things. Parliament will not function normally until Mustafa withdraws his signature*" the head of Self Determination Parliamentary Group Glauk Konjufca declared. The vice chairman of AAK, Ahmet Isufi, concurred. Meanwhile, representatives of the international community in Pristina say that the Association of Serb Communes cannot be stopped by anybody. The EU Special Representative to Kosovo, Samuel Zbogar says that this institution will be set up until the end of the year (balkaneu.com, GR, 1/10).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 1/10, <http://www.balkaneu.com/opposition-kosovo-blocks-parliament-political-tensions-expected/>

Charts

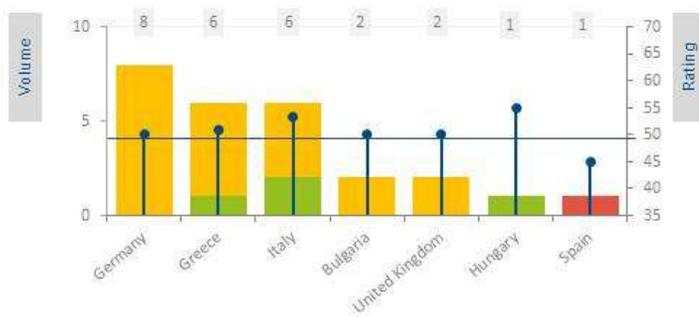
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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Ivica Dačić - Serbian FM	4
Isa Mustafa - Prime Minister of Kosovo	3
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	2
Christian Danielsson - Director General for Enlargement European Commission	2

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