

Key Quotes

UK Foreign Secretary welcomes Croatia's EU entry. William Hague said that *"Croatia's accession to the EU was sending a strong message to other countries in the region - the process was tough but there were clear benefits at the end of it"* (Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK, 3/6)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/uk-foreign-secretary-welcomes-croatias-eu-entry>

Summary

Meeting of Romanian and Serbian Prime Ministers

At a meeting of the Romanian and Serbian Prime Ministers, Victor Ponta and Ivica Dačić, Ponta, on behalf of the Romanian government, expressed *"full support for the start of the negotiation process on Serbia's accession at the European Union"* and saluted *"the courage and determination of the Serbian government and Premier Dačić, in particular, for the evolution of relations between Belgrade and Priština and the agreement signed in Brussels"* adding *"It is in Romania's interest and the interest of the whole region to have stability and cooperation in our region. Romania will always remain a loyal friend of Serbia and we will support all those efforts that the Serbian government is making to normalise relations and to make these constructive"*. The Serbian Prime Minister stated that he understood *"very well the pressures and the situation Romania is under in relation to its principled position on the Kosovo issue"*, adding *"Rest assured that Serbia wants the Kosovo issue solved as fast as possible and acceptable solutions found for both sides and for all of us, together, to turn towards the future – and this is the true value of the agreement I signed in Brussels"*. He went on to comment that he expected Serbia to receive a date for the start of negotiations saying *"All criteria to do with domestic politics, dialogue with Priština and other criteria concerning the internal situation have been met"* (nineoclock.ro, RO, 2/6). However Serbs living in the volatile northern Kosovo announced on May 31 that they plan to form an *"autonomous"* parliament for the enclave, in defiance of an EU-brokered deal, agreed between Belgrade and Priština in April, to normalise ties (bne.eu, UK, 3/6).

- nineoclock.ro, RO, 2/6, <http://www.nineoclock.ro/romania-supports-start-of-neogations-process-on-serbia%E2%80%99s-eu-accession>
- bne.eu, UK, 3/6, http://www.bne.eu/story5023/Kosovo_Serbs_announce_plan_for_autonomous_parliament

Accession criteria and Croatia

Tomas Lundin writing in Svenska Dagbladet (SE, 1/6) says that in a month, Croatia will be a new member of the EU and asks whether there is a risk of repeating the 2007 error of opening the door to corruption-ravaged Romania and Bulgaria. According to Lundin we should not be too concerned about Croatia because the EU has learnt its lesson, forcing Croatia to comply with virtually all its undertakings in advance. Croatia also has one of the highest living standards in the former Yugoslavia unlike Romania and Bulgaria, and has come a long way in the reconciliation process in the Balkans. The biggest problems today are an economy in need of structural reforms and competitiveness, high youth unemployment and an unhealthy reliance on tourism. Nevertheless the daily Delo says the Croatian authorities should do more to deal with the dark side of the country's past stemming from the war in the early 1990s as it gears up to join the EU (sta.si, SI, 3/6).

- Svenska Dagbladet, SE, 1/6, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130601/mi/item_158563024.pdf
- sta.si, SI, 3/6, <http://www.sta.si/vest.php?s=a&id=1892685>

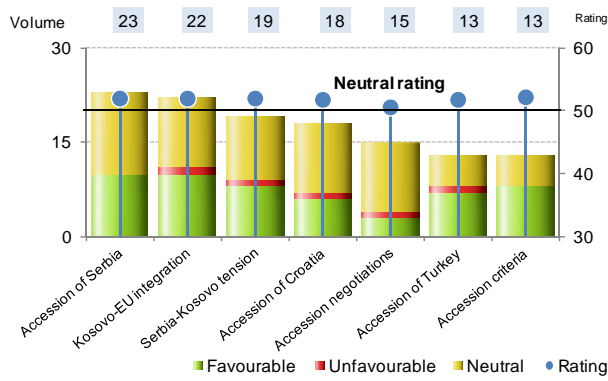
Protests in Turkey

Extensive police violence against demonstrators in Istanbul and other cities in Turkey has caused international outcry and intense concern both on the part of the EU and the US. Peter Stano, spokesperson of Commissioner Štefan Füle, reminded Turkey that it is a candidate country, asking for fundamental rights, including freedom of expression and freedom of assembly to be guaranteed (Ethnos, GR, 3/6)

- Ethnos, GR, 3/6, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130603/mi/item_158566663.pdf

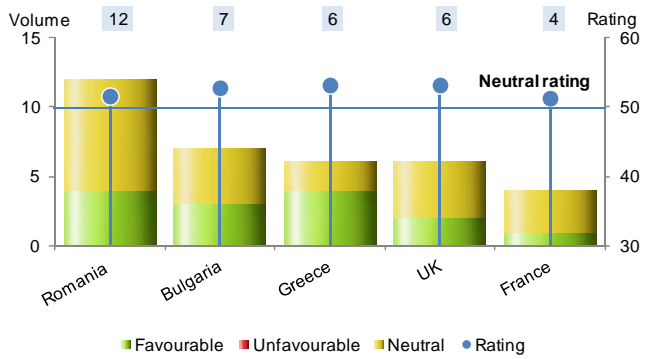
Charts

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by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
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ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	48 items
Rating	51.7
Favourable %	39.6%
Unfavourable %	6.2%
Neutral %	54.2%

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ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources
by volume, favourability & rating

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	14
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	8
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	7
Victor Ponta (Prime Minister, Romania)	7
Traian Băsescu (President, Romania)	7
Peter Stano (Spokesperson Enlargement, EC)	6

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