

## Summary

The European Commission has published an annual review of progress in the enlargement countries (sta.si, SI, 10/10). The Republic of Cyprus, which holds the EU Presidency, will discuss the reports with other member states in order for relevant conclusions to be adopted by the December General Affairs Council (Simerini, CY, 10/10).

- sta.si, SI, 10/10, <http://sta.si/vest.php?s=s&id=1808371>
- Simerini, CY, 10/10, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item\\_136654779.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item_136654779.pdf)

Among reports on accession countries the one concerning Serbia demands an improvement in the relationship between Serbia and Kosovo. Negotiations between Belgrade and Pristina are to be held on a high level, with the participation of High Representative Catherine Ashton and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (Frankfurter-Allgemeine-Zeitung, DE, 10/10). The Serbians want condition-free accession, reports Evenimentul-Zilei. The European Union should not ask Serbia to recognise Kosovo, says Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic, adding "The question is not whether we want Europe, but if Europe wants us" (Evenimentul-Zilei, RO, 10/10). He continued: "We cannot give up a part of our territory to join the European Union" (Secolo-d-Italia, IT, 10/10). Regarding Serbia's relationship with Russia, Mr Nikolic commented "I have always thought that Serbia could be a bridge between the East and the West. It would be a mistake, if we do not use this good position." In his words, Belgrade wishes to get closer to EU accession but this should not be an obstacle to developing partnerships with other countries (focus-fen.net, BG, 9/10).

- Evenimentul-Zilei, RO, 10/10, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item\\_136646352.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item_136646352.pdf)
- Frankfurter-Allgemeine-Zeitung, DE, 10/10, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item\\_136639228.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item_136639228.pdf)
- Secolo-d-Italia, IT, 10/10, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item\\_136656099.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item_136656099.pdf)
- focus-fen.net, BG, 9/10, <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n289464>

The report considering the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYRoM) sets the resolution of the naming issue as a condition for the continuation of the EU accession negotiations (capital.gr, GR, 9/10). According to Focus-Fen.net (BG, 9/10), fYRoM daily Utrinski Vesnik said that the fYRoM would not rush its reply to a letter recently sent by Greek Foreign Minister Dimitris Avramopoulos to the fYRoM government, in which Mr Avramopoulos proposed the two countries sign a memorandum of understanding. According to unofficial sources, the feedback would not be ready before the release of the European Commission's report on the fYRoM's progress, and probably neither would it be ready by the end of this week (focus-fen.net, BG, 9/10).

- capital.gr, GR, 9/10, <http://www.capital.gr/News.asp?id=1635801>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 9/10, <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n289476>

In an opinion piece on enlargement in Svenska Dagbladet, EC Commissioner for Enlargement Štefan Füle and Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt write that continued EU expansion is the solution to some of today's problems. They note that many are hesitant to expand the EU during this turbulent time, but expansion offers economic and financial stability, helps trade and investments, and increases long-term growth. A shift closer to Europe has helped the Baltic States, and other countries can follow in their footsteps. They say that expansion is also an important factor in keeping peace and stability in the area, saying: "we need to keep our promises to applicant countries. Expansion is a chance for them to enact change for the better" (Svenska-Dagbladet, SE, 10/10). However there were contrary views; another opinion piece suggested that the expansion of the EU is on autopilot (Frankfurter-Allgemeine-Zeitung, DE, 10/10).

- Svenska-Dagbladet, SE, 10/10, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item\\_136662299.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item_136662299.pdf)
- Frankfurter-Allgemeine-Zeitung, DE, 10/10, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item\\_136638399.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121010/mi/item_136638399.pdf)

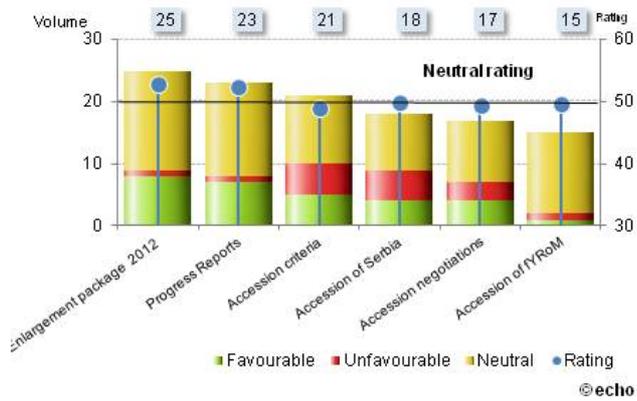
## Key Quotes

Serbia has not received a date for the beginning of EU accession negotiations; this has caused strong reaction in the Serbian government. Ivica Dačić said that this fact "could bring an end to the dialogue with Pristina" (Rizospastis, GR, 11/10). <http://www.rizospastis.gr/wwwengine/story.do?id=7083084>

"Despite the crisis, the European Commission wants enlargement policy to continue" (Journal L'Alsace, FR, 11/10). <http://www.lalsace.fr/actualite/2012/10/11/union-europeenne-bruxelles-veut-poursuivre-sa-politique-d-elargissement>

## Charts

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

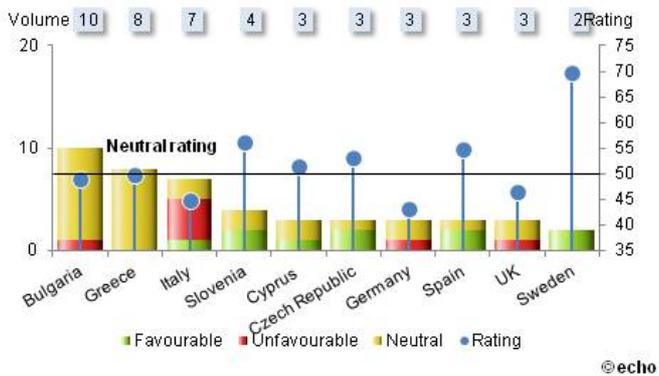


ELARG: **Highlights**  
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	48 items
Rating	50.5
Favourable %	22.9%
Unfavourable %	14.6%
Neutral %	62.5%

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



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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Commissioner for Enlargement, EC)	9
Janez Janša (Prime Minister, Slovenia)	9
Giorgio Napolitano (President, Italy)	6
Peter Stano (Enlargement Spokesperson, EC)	2
Theresa May (Home Secretary, UK)	2
Nikolay Mladenov (Foreign Minister, Bulgaria)	2
Carl Bildt (Foreign Minister, Sweden)	2
Catherine Barber (Deputy Head of Mission to Bulgaria, UK)	2
Joaquín Almunia (Commissioner for Competition, EC)	2