

Key Quotes

Croatia gears up for EU entry amid economic worries. Croatian President Ivo Josipović, himself a strong supporter of EU entry, acknowledged the crisis within the bloc had influenced the mood in the country: **"But we are stronger together... and the only way out from the crisis is through more Europe and not less Europe"** (eubusiness.com, UK, 24/6)

<http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/croatia-enlarge.pdg>

Summary

Turkey and Germany summon ambassadors

Turkey and Germany summoned each others' ambassadors on Friday amid an escalating row that threatens further to damage Ankara's stalled European Union membership bid. Turkey's EU minister accused Angela Merkel of attempting to stymie new accession talks because she was trying to exploit Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's crackdown on protesters for domestic popularity. Chancellor Merkel has said she was appalled at Turkey's attempts to quell anti-government protests this month. *"If Mrs Merkel is looking for domestic political material for her elections, that material should not be Turkey,"* Egemen Bağış, Turkey's Minister for EU Affairs, said. German Foreign Ministry spokesman Andreas Peschke said the Turkish ambassador was summoned *"due to remarks from Turkish officials towards Germany"*. Turkey's Foreign Minister, Ahmet Davutoğlu, said the German ambassador had been called in because Turkey was uncomfortable with statements from German officials. (The Times, UK, 22/6). In an interview with Süddeutsche Zeitung (DE, 24/6), Mr Bağış talked about the protests in Istanbul and the accession talks with the EU. Referring to alleged police violence, he said the security forces fulfilled their tasks as they would have in any other European country. Should powers have been exceeded, they would be punished as in any other democratic state. The police have been very patient with the demonstrators and similar protests in other European countries would have ended very much worse. He said it was not fair not to open a new chapter because of political constraints. However, Kronen Zeitung (AT, 24/6) suggests that it is a good thing that the negotiations about an EU accession of Turkey have started to stall. The EU family does not need a country with major internal political unrest in addition to its own problems.

- The Times, UK, 22/6, <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article3797813.ece>
- Süddeutsche Zeitung, DE, 24/6, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130624/mi/item_160673392.pdf
- Kronen Zeitung, AT, 24/6, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130624/mi/item_160691265.pdf

Problems for Croatia

In a week's time Croatia is joining the EU. Nobody is particularly happy about the fact - neither the Croats, nor their neighbours, nor Brussels. A particular difficulty will be the need for border controls on the road to the exclave of Dubrovnik, separated from the rest of the country by a stretch of Bosnian coast. Meanwhile there are worries inside the EU that Croatia may be another problem child' like Greece (Wprost, PL, 24/6). In addition there is a conflict between the country, the EU and Germany. Croatia wants to change the law of the European Arrest Warrant (EAW). Thus the EAW should only affect crimes committed by Croatian citizens after 2002. Nina Andreeva, spokesperson for EU Commissioner for Justice Viviane Reding, told a Croatian newspaper that the country was not allowed to restrict the EAW's domain. Furthermore, Croatia is obliged to fulfil the EWA for Josip Perković, initiated by Germany. Croatia made the demand concerning the EWA after the Bundestag ratified Croatia's accession to the EU (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, DE, 22/6).

- Wprost, PL, 24/6, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130624/mi/item_160690819.pdf
- Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, DE, 22/6, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130622/mi/item_160553784.pdf

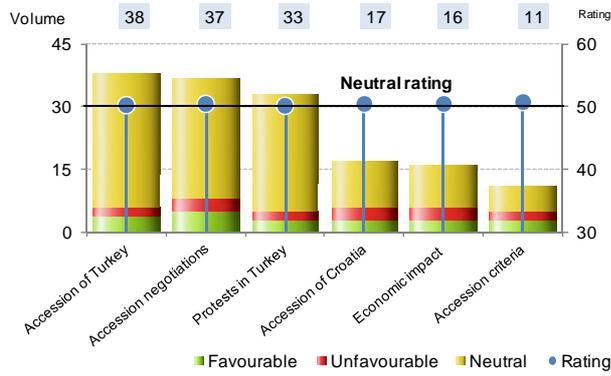
Violence mars Albanian elections

An exchange of gunfire near a polling station wounded a candidate for parliament and left dead a supporter of a rival party during Albania's national elections on Sunday, tainting what had been a largely peaceful campaign season and threatening to further undermine the nation's bid to join the European Union (The Independent, UK, 24/6)

- The Independent, UK, 24/6, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130624/mi/item_160679300.pdf9

Charts

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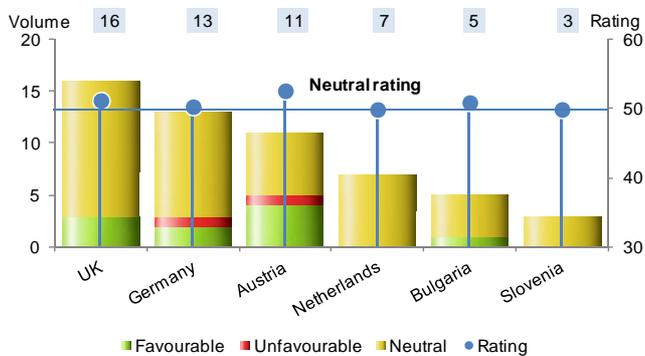
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Volume	63 items
Rating	50.8
Favourable %	15.9%
Unfavourable %	6.3%
Neutral %	77.8%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	27
Angela Merkel (Chancellor, Germany)	26
Egemen Bağış (Minister for European Affairs, Turkey)	17
Guido Westerwelle (Foreign Minister, Germany)	7
Dr Sali Berisha (Prime Minister, Albania)	6
Edi Rama (Politician, Albania)	6

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