

## Key Quotes

The decision in Luxembourg by EU European Affairs ministers to open the EU door to both Serbia and Kosovo follows an historic agreement struck between the two on April 19 to normalise their ties. **"This is a good day for both,"** Štefan Füle said. **"They have exceeded our expectations in putting their relations on a new footing."** Ahead of the EU announcement, President Tomislav Nikolić said: **"Serbia did everything to become a member of the European family. I am convinced that... the European Union will open to Serbia an historic opportunity... to live in dignity within its European family"** (eubusiness.com, UK, 26/6)

<http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/serbia-kosovo.pez/>

EU delays Turkey membership talks after German pressure. Irish Foreign Minister Eamon Gilmore said: **"While we have been disturbed by the reaction to the recent peaceful protests in Turkey, I believe that the EU accession process is the most effective tool we have in influencing the reform agenda in Turkey. EU-inspired reforms have facilitated the increasing space for peaceful protest and dissenting voices"** (BBC Online, UK, 25/6)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-23044600>

## Summary

### Clash between the 27 EU foreign ministers on Turkey

Eleftherotypia (GR, 25/6) reports that Germany attempted to exclude Turkey from the EU accession because of the recent demonstrations in the country, but it was forced to back down due to the strong opposition by the other EU countries which fully support Turkish accession. Eleftherotypia comments that the EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton wanted to keep the door open for Turkey. Ms Ashton stated that the commitment is the best choice wherever you can have it. Austria, Germany and the Netherlands spoke against Turkish accession negotiations during the meeting of the EU ministers of Foreign Affairs in Luxembourg. The accession talks could be taken up again in the autumn. Austrian foreign minister Wolfgang Spindelegger has demanded a test for Turkey. According to Mr Spindelegger, this should be how human rights, demonstration rights and freedom of expression are dealt with in Turkey. (ORF2, AT, 24/6). However the Swedish Foreign Minister, Carl Bildt said *"we cannot change the EU's strategy because of nervousness in one or other corner of the continent. Our policy is not geared to days or weeks. It focuses on the years and decades and for the future of Europe"* (Landskrona-Posten, SE, 25/6).

- Eleftherotypia (GR, 25/6), [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130625/mi/item\\_160815889.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130625/mi/item_160815889.pdf)
- ORF2, AT, 24/6, (link not available)
- Landskrona-Posten, SE, 25/6, <https://web.retriever-info.com/go/?u=https%3A%2F%2Fweb.retriever-info.com%2Fservices%2Farchive.html%3Fmethod%3DdisplayPDF&p=267517&a=32138&sa=2017670&x=353deeea47b06ea12d22cce8042d5d5e&d=05090120130625dda1543a560166db6cf04a0fe84884d3>

### Serbia and Kosovo could soon come a step closer towards the EU.

EU membership negotiations with Serbia are at risk from the German elections as Germany has put the brakes on prior to a domestic political debate set for Thursday regarding Serbia. High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton has managed to get Serbia and Kosovo to begin implementing the agreement on border controls, police and the justice system and is now pushing for EU governments to accept the start of negotiations for Serbia before year end. Unusually, she has taken a stand against Germany's blockade, as has Carl Bildt, the Swedish Foreign Minister (Dagens Nyheter, SE, 25/6). Karl Erjavec, the Slovenian Foreign Minister, hopes that EU Member States will come to an agreement regarding a start of Serbian accession negotiations in October. Mr. Erjavec believes the country deserves this, as it has done its homework and setting additional requirements would not be fair. The same goes for Kosovo and the start of negotiations for a stabilisation-association agreement. Catherine Ashton did not want to speculate on the matter, stating only that the progress made by both Serbia and Kosovo is astonishing (TV Slovenija-1, SI, 24/6)

- Dagens Nyheter, SE, 25/6, [http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130625/mi/item\\_160809022.pdf](http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130625/mi/item_160809022.pdf)
- TV Slovenija-1, SI, 24/6, (link not available)

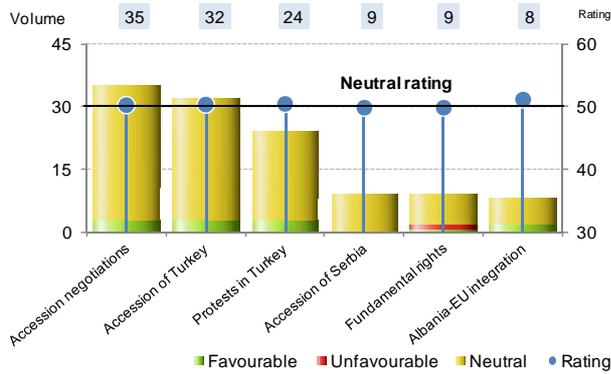
### Future for Europe's periphery

For all those countries, which like Croatia, were long governed by irresponsible elites, Europe represented a certain institutional and political framework which offered a prospect of well-being and a guarantee of the rule of law. However, the crisis has clearly demonstrated that all of this was simply an illusion. The European Union no longer ensures the well-being of countries. Today's Europe is governed by austerity policies, and it matters little that respected economists have pointed out that the debts these policies are designed to address are not the cause of the crisis but rather one of its consequences. Today's Europeans, and in particular those in peripheral countries, are afraid of tomorrow (presseurop.eu, FR, 24/6)

- presseurop.eu, FR, 24/6, <http://www.presseurop.eu/en/content/article/3903771-carrying-regardless>

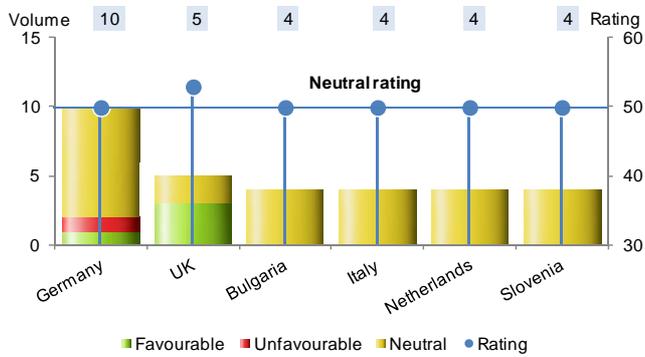
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**ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	15
Angela Merkel (Chancellor, Germany)	12
Guido Westerwelle (Foreign Minister, Germany)	12
Michael Spindelegger (Foreign Minister, Austria)	8
Carl Bildt (Foreign Minister, Sweden)	7
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	6
Dr Sali Berisha (Prime Minister, Albania)	6
Edi Rama (Politician, Albania)	6

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