

Key Quotes

Simona Sikimic writes that *"like Croatia's path to accession, its road to prosperity will be long and hard"* (LondonlovesBusiness.com, UK, 7/7)

<http://www.londonlovesbusiness.com/business-news/politics/croatia-may-be-in-the-eu-but-it-faces-a-long-hard-road-ahead/5889.article>

Summary

Provisional parliament in North Kosovo

Serbs in northern Kosovo continue to strongly reject the agreement on the north of Kosovo, which was concluded under the auspices of the EU in April (Vecer, SI, 5/7). Hardline Serbian opponents of the accord announced on Thursday that they were setting up a provisional parliament in North Kosovo. *"We will defend Serbia's constitutional order and its state sovereignty"*, said Leposavić Mayor, Slavko Stevanović, who was elected president of the new assembly. About 100 delegates from the four largest Serbian-majority North Kosovo municipalities gathered in Zvečan to install the new parliament (ansamed.info, IT, 4/7). Stevanović said that the formation of the new parliament is meant to demonstrate *"that Kosovo is still part of Serbia"* (rferl.org, CZ, 4/7).

- Vecer, SI, 5/7, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130705/mi/item_162004481.pdf
- ansamed.info, IT, 4/7, http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2013/07/04/Kosovo-hardline-north-Serbs-install-provisional-parliament_8977338.html
- rferl.org, CZ, 4/7, <http://www.rferl.org/content/serbs-kosovo-parliament-boycott/25036867.html>

Kosovo signs military agreement with Albania

Kosovo has concluded a military agreement with Albania, causing an immediate reaction in Serbia. The text of the agreement defines, inter alia, all the procedures concerning the entry and stay of Albanian and Kosovan soldiers in both countries, based on NATO standards. A vast majority of the approximately 2 million inhabitants of Kosovo are ethnically Albanian. Serbs are approximately 120,000, most of which are concentrated in the north. Aleksandar Vučić, Serbian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, expressed himself negatively on this agreement, considering it a *"serious problem"*, that needs to be dealt with by the European Union and other international partners. Serbia does not recognise Kosovo's independence, and continues to consider this country as its own southern province (ansa.it, IT, 4/7).

- ansa.it, IT, 4/7, http://www.ansa.it/nuova_europa/en/news/sections/politics/2013/07/04/Kosovo-Albania-military-agreement-Serbia-complains_8973440.html

Unfreezing Turkish relations

Lithuania's ambassador to Ankara, Kęstutis Kudzmanas, said: *"During its EU presidency Lithuania will support Turkey in its efforts to open new chapters. We will make an effort to open chapters 17, 19 and 22,"* (EUROPE-1-FR, FR, 4/7). Commenting on Turkish accession, Nurten Yilmaz, an Austrian politician, stated that the EU doesn't know now how to deal with Turkey adding that the EU lacks maturity in dealing with the country (Die Presse, AT, 5/7). Dr Demir Murat Seyrek, an independent analyst on European affairs and managing partner of Global Communications writes that slowing down accession negotiations and dialogue has minimised the influence of Europe on Turkey and the reform process. Now the EU has a chance to be involved as an active partner in the emergence of this new and fully European Turkey. It is time to send clear messages to pro-democracy groups in the country by revitalising the accession process. An important chance would be lost for the future of both the EU and Turkey, if sceptics use the mistakes of the Turkish government as an excuse to freeze relations (publicserviceeurope.com, UK, 5/7).

- EUROPE-1-FR, FR, 4/7, (link not available)
- Die Presse, AT, 5/7, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130705/mi/item_162001944.pdf
- publicserviceeurope.com, UK, 5/7, <http://www.publicserviceeurope.com/article/3682/turkey-reloaded-generation-y-social-media-and-european-values>

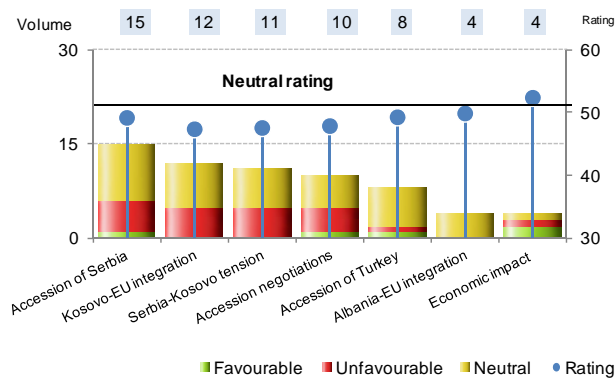
Albanian accession

The Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Albania, Ettore Sequi, stated that the country has all the potential to receive full candidate status for accession to the EU, after the establishment of its new government. After his meeting with the new Albanian Prime Minister, Edi Rama, Mr Sequi emphasised that if Albania proceeds with the necessary reforms, it might receive an EU status in December (WAZ, DE, 4/7).

- WAZ, DE, 4/7, (link not available)

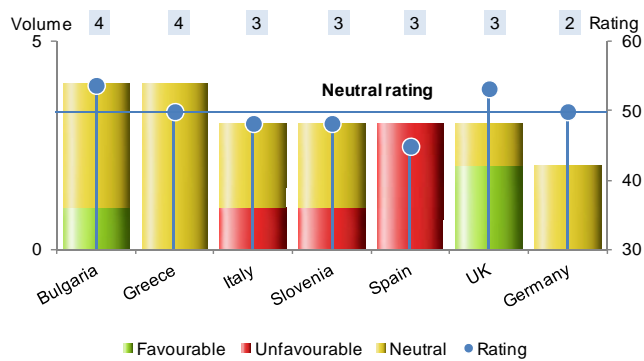
Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
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Volume	27 items
Rating	49.6
Favourable %	11.1%
Unfavourable %	22.2%
Neutral %	66.7%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Slavko Stevanović (President Temporary Assembly of Kosovo and Metohija)	6
Wolfgang Schäuble (Finance Minister, Germany)	4
Edi Rama (Prime Minister, Albania)	2
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	2
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	2
Kęstutis Kudzmanas (Lithuanian Ambassador to Turkey)	2
Ettore Sequi (Head of the EU Delegation to Albania)	2

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