# 23rd July (Tuesday)



# DG ELARG – 23rd July 2013 Media Evaluation Summary Report

### **Key Quotes**

"The road to Europe passes through northern Kosovo," said Štefan Füle in Belgrade and Priština (rivistaeuropae.eu, IT, 23/7) http://www.rivistaeuropae.eu/esteri/esterni/la-strada-per-leuropa-passa-per-il-nord-kosovo-fule-a-belgrado-e-pristina/

Turkey: Heading for the "end of history". Dorel Dumitru Chirițescu writes that "Europe and the United States can help to negotiate a social peace that would sustain stability in the country, which is in a grey area with regard to democratic standards — neither democratic or anti-democratic — but which in the medium term has great potential to become a sizeable power, a member of the EU as well as NATO, and a vector of civilisation bordering the very problematic Middle East" (presseurop.eu, FR, 22/7) <a href="http://www.presseurop.eu/en/content/article/3990891-heading-end-history">http://www.presseurop.eu/en/content/article/3990891-heading-end-history</a>

## Summary

#### **Greek and Turkish Foreign Ministers meet**

On Friday the Greek Foreign Minister, Evangelos Venizelos met his Turkish counterpart, Ahmet Davutoğlu in Ankara. The two men talked about several issues, including Greek-Turkish relations and the Cypriot issue. They both reiterated their wish to smooth the relations between the two countries and underlined their common interests especially in the field of energy (Nea-Savatokiriako, EL, 20/7).

Nea-Savatokiriako, EL, 20/7, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130720/mi/item 163703263.pdf

#### **Turkey and the Kurds**

Also concerning Turkey, Kurdish rebels have warned Turkey that it must start implementing reforms agreed under the plan to end their 30-year conflict. The Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) said in a statement that concrete steps should be taken in the shortest time. The PKK has already begun withdrawing its fighters from Turkey, but Ankara insists on a full withdrawal for peace talks to progress. Turkey is under pressure to abolish an anti-terrorism law - under which thousands have been imprisoned for links to the PKK - and allow Kurdish children to be educated in their own language. As part of wider democratisation demands the PKK also wants Turkey to lower the electoral threshold, so that Kurdish parties - rather than independent candidates - can get elected to parliament. The rebels agreed to move their fighters out of Turkey and into northern Iraq but Ankara says the withdrawal is happening too slowly. A full PKK withdrawal is necessary, Ankara argues, for the peace process to move on to a democratisation process and then normalisation, which would include the release of political prisoners. Ankara says that so far no more than 20% of the withdrawal has been accomplished (ukwirednews.com, UK, 19/7).

· ukwirednews.com, UK, 19/7, <a href="http://www.ukwirednews.com/news.php/1496802-Kurdish-PKK-rebels-tell-Turkey-to-implement-reforms">http://www.ukwirednews.com/news.php/1496802-Kurdish-PKK-rebels-tell-Turkey-to-implement-reforms</a>

#### **Enlargement Commissioner in Belgrade and Priština**

A visit by Enlargement Commissioner Füle in Belgrade was characterised, according to media reports, by lack of interest from the Serbs. The Serbian government is likely to be unprepared for the start of EU accession negotiations at the beginning of 2014. The Commissioner was irritated by this attitude, reports the daily newspaper "Blic" (Die Presse, AT, 20/7). In Kosovo Štefan Füle, said SAA negotiations with Kosovo could finish by spring 2014, but will involve raising 'difficult' issues. "I'm optimistic that we will make good progress and even finish our negotiations by next spring" Füle said of talks on a stability deal during his visit to Priština. After meeting Hashim Thaçi, the Kosovo Prime Minister, Füle said the Commission was preparing a draft agreement and that it will start negotiating with Kosovo after the summer. Füle described the start to negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement as "a well-deserved reward" for Kosovo - but warned that there would be challenging issues to be opened during the negotiations. (bne.eu, DE, 22/7).

- Die Presse, AT, 20/7, <a href="http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130720/mi/item\_163699246.pdf">http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20130720/mi/item\_163699246.pdf</a>
- bne.eu, DE, 22/7, http://www.bne.eu/archive\_blob.php?id=380764&words[]=serbia

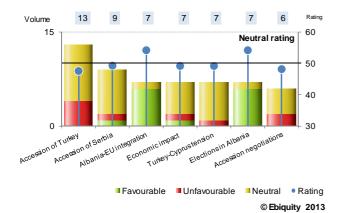
#### Albanian elections

Albania on Saturday ordered recounts in two districts following the June 23 general election after complaints filed by the outgoing Prime Minister's party over possible voter fraud. The elections were closely monitored by the European Union, who have twice refused to give Albania candidate status for EU membership (world.actualno.com, BG, 20/7). The EU argued that this election was a crucial "test for the institutions of the country" and its European future (lepoint.fr, FR, 20/7).

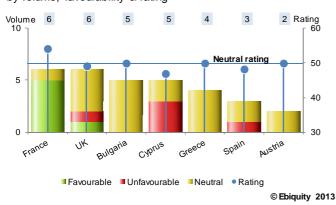
world.actualno.com, BG, 20/7, <a href="http://world.actualno.com/Mesec-sled-izborite-v-Albanija---rezultati-njama-news-432089.html">http://world.actualno.com/Mesec-sled-izborite-v-Albanija---rezultati-njama-news-432089.html</a> lepoint.fr, FR, 20/7, <a href="http://www.lepoint.fr/monde/albanie-un-mois-apres-les-legislatives-toujours-pas-de-resultat-20-07-2013-1706737">http://www.lepoint.fr/monde/albanie-un-mois-apres-les-legislatives-toujours-pas-de-resultat-20-07-2013-1706737</a> 24.php

### Charts

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



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



ELARG: Highlights

by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	33 items
Rating	50.0
Favourable %	21.2%
Unfavourable %	15.2%
Neutral %	63.6%

© Ebiquity 2013

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	6
Ahmet Davutoğlu (Foreign Minister, Turkey)	3
Dervis Eroğlu (Turkish Cypriot leader)	3
Tomislav Nikolić (President, Serbia)	3
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	2
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	2
Dimitris Christofias (former President, Cyprus)	2
Evangelos Venizelos (Foreign Minister, Greece)	2

© Ebiquity 2013

Disclaimer: The access to this press report is restricted to European Commission staff. It should not be forwarded or circulated.