

## Key Quotes

The UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) singularly failed to investigate the abduction and murders of Kosovo Serbs in the aftermath of the 1998-1999 conflict. Amnesty International's expert on Kosovo, Sian Jones, said: *"UNMIK's failure to investigate what constituted a widespread, as well as a systematic, attack on a civilian population and, potentially, crimes against humanity, has contributed to the climate of impunity prevailing in Kosovo. There is no statute of limitations on crimes against humanity. They must be investigated and the families of the abducted and murdered must receive redress. The UN should not be allowed to shirk its responsibility any longer. The legacies of the Kosovo conflict must be resolved – this includes resolving the fate of missing persons from all communities in Kosovo, bringing to account those responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity, and providing reparation. Only when that happens can the scars of the past conflict start to heal"* (Amnesty International, UK, 27/8).

[http://www.amnesty.org.uk/news\\_details.asp?NewsID=20935](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/news_details.asp?NewsID=20935)

## Summary

### Enlargement not on Greek EU Presidency agenda

Citing a EurActiv article ('Greece drops enlargement from its EU presidency priorities', 23/8), Phileleftheros (CY, 26/8) notes that Enlargement is notably absent from the priority list of the Greek EU Presidency that will begin in January 2014, despite a commitment by Athens under the joint programme of the so-called Trio of Presidencies - currently made up of Ireland, Lithuania and Greece, which had defined enlargement as an area of strategic importance. However the Greek Deputy Foreign Minister, Dimitris Kourkoulas, stated that Greece is a country that has traditionally supported the European perspective of the Western Balkan countries and adding that the entry negotiations with Serbia will begin during the Greek Presidency. Mr Kourkoulas expressed his hope that in the future, all the Western Balkan countries will have the opportunity to become equal members of the EU family, as long as they comply with entry criteria (Kyriakatiki Eleftherotypia, GR, 26/8).

- Phileleftheros, CY, 26/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130826/mi/item\\_166825344.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130826/mi/item_166825344.pdf)
- Kyriakatiki Eleftherotypia, GR, 26/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130825/mi/item\\_166826557.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130825/mi/item_166826557.pdf)

### Iceland confronts Brussels by rejecting EU membership

Last week, Iceland informed the EC that it has no interest anymore in EU accession. This is a challenge for the EU as it is the first time a candidate member state has unilaterally decided that it wants to withdraw from accession talks, without even consulting with its own citizens. Since 2009, Iceland's goodwill towards the EU has been reversed. According to Iceland's Prime Minister Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson, Iceland's citizens are not convinced of the EU's willingness to serve the interest of the people, rather than the interests of the largest member states (Financieele Dagblad, NL, 26/8).

- Financieele Dagblad, NL, 26/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130826/mi/item\\_166808372.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130826/mi/item_166808372.pdf)

### Prime Minister of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia threatens early election over political deadlock

The Prime Minister of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Nikola Gruevski, said the prospect of opening EU entry talks could be withdrawn if the conservative government and the centre-left Social Democrats failed to produce an agreed report on an incident last December when opposition legislators were thrown out for brawling (uk.reuters.com, UK, 25/8). The bipartisan committee set up to investigate the events in Parliament with the participation of two members of VMRO-DPMNE and SDSM, could not agree on who was responsible for the incidents. The Prime Minister stressed that if there is no finding from the Party Committee on the incidents in the House, it is very likely that the European Commission's annual progress report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, which will be published on 16 October, will not recommend the start of accession negotiations (thestival.gr, 24/8).

- uk.reuters.com, UK, 25/8, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/08/25/uk-macedonia-politics-deadlock-idUKBRE97NOBG20130825?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews>
- thestival.gr, 24/8, <http://www.thestival.gr/diethni/item/119276-skopia-anoixto-to-endexomeno-prooron-eklogon-stis-13-oktobriou>

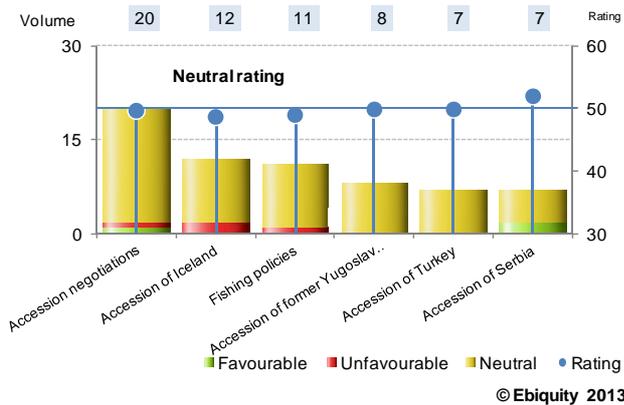
### Ex-politician to the rescue of Serbia

Former Austrian Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer will help the Serbs in their efforts to join the European Union. Belgrade, which is expected to start accession negotiations in January, under pressure from Brussels, has turned in all wanted war criminals from the former Yugoslavia and normalised relations with Kosovo. The country is still in a terrible economic situation and cannot deal with corruption. There are also signals from Belgrade that the government undermines the freedom of the press. Mr Gusenbauer is optimistic and says that the entry of Serbia in the EU will be the next step in stabilising the Western Balkans (Gazeta Wyborcza, PL, 24/8).

- Gazeta Wyborcza, PL, 24/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130824/mi/item\\_166706310.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130824/mi/item_166706310.pdf)

## Charts

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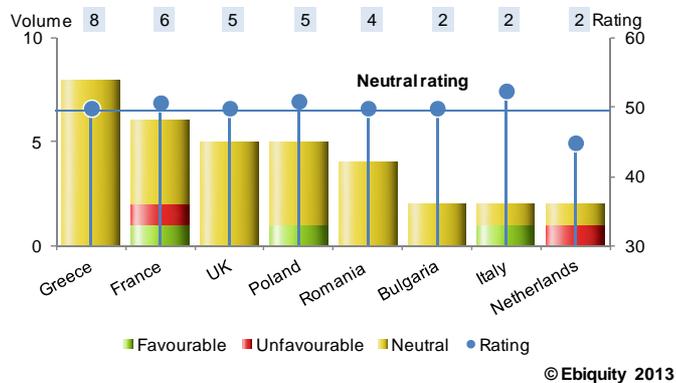
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<b>Volume</b>	37 items
<b>Rating</b>	50.1
<b>Favourable %</b>	8.1%
<b>Unfavourable %</b>	5.4%
<b>Neutral %</b>	86.5%

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

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



ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Nikola Gruevski (President, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	8
Peter Stano (Spokesperson Enlargement, EC)	3
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	2
Baroness Catherine Ashton (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	2
Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson (Prime Minister, Iceland)	2
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	2

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