

## Key Quotes

Traian Băsescu, President of Romania, stated that *"Romania will not produce a gridlock in Serbia's EU accession negotiations, however it will make sure the protocol on minority rights, a protocol signed last year with Belgrade, will be fully implemented"* (Nineoclock.ro, RO, 28/8)

<http://www.nineoclock.ro/pm-ponta-asks-ambassadors-not-to-accept-the-blaming-of-the-country/>

## Summary

### Serbia and Kosovo argue about symbols

The talks between Belgrade and Priština, mediated by EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton have resumed after a two-month break. At the recent meeting the parties were supposed to discuss the issues of telecommunications, energy and the judiciary, but focused instead on the technical aspects of the local elections scheduled for 3 November. Serbian Prime Minister Ivica Dačić warned that Belgrade would not call on his fellow Serbs living in Kosovo to vote if the logo of the Republic of Kosovo, whose independence Serbia would never recognise, was printed on the election slips, as planned by Priština. Belgrade said the election slips could only have the sign of the election committee on them. Kosovo Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi thinks the layout of the election slip is not his responsibility, but that of the central election committee (Magyar-Hirlap, HU, 28/8). The meeting ended without results. A new round of talks with Serbian Prime Minister Ivica Dačić and Kosovo Prime Minister Hasim Thaçi is scheduled for September 8, said Catherine Ashton (Münchner Merkur, DE, 28/8).

- Magyar-Hirlap, HU, 28/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130828/mi/item\\_167035359.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130828/mi/item_167035359.pdf)
- Münchner Merkur, DE, 28/8, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130828/mi/item\\_167020884.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130828/mi/item_167020884.pdf)

### War crimes in Kosovo

Following the Amnesty International report on the UN's failure to investigate war crimes in Kosovo acqmagazine.com (ES, 28/8) notes that in May the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) and the Kosovo Police Special Operations Unit arrested five people on suspicion of war crimes during the 1998-1999 conflict. In April EULEX began the retrial of Fatmir Limaj, a prominent political figure in the Democratic Party of Kosovo and former commander of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA). Nine other defendants face charges in the case.

- acqmagazine.com, ES, 28/8, <http://www.acqmagazine.com/un-failed-to-investigate-kosovo-war-crimes-ai/>

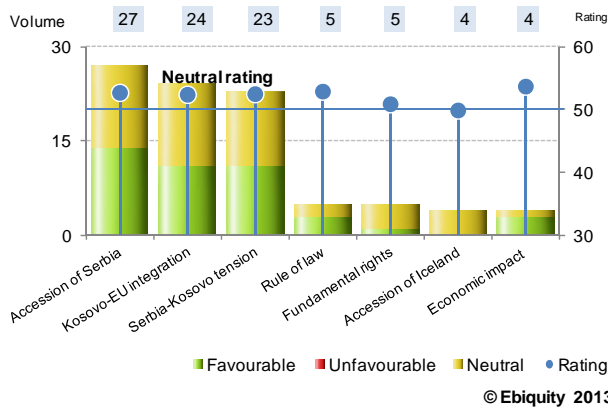
### Recognition for Kosovo

Panama and Kosovo have established diplomatic relations; Kosovo currently has formal diplomatic recognition as an independent state from 99 countries including 22 of the 27 countries of the European Union (que.es, ES, 27/8). President Băsescu said that Romania's stance on Kosovo has become more flexible as a result of the developments in the relationship between Serbia and Kosovo and this will be in correlation with Serbia's stance (hotnews.ro, RO, 27/8).

- que.es, ES, 27/8, <http://www.que.es/ultimas-noticias/espana/201308272311-panama-kosovo-establecen-relaciones-diplomaticas-efe.html>
- hotnews.ro, RO, 27/8, <http://www.hotnews.ro/stiri-esential-15457935-traian-basescu-pozitia-romaniei-privind-kosovo-flexibilizat-vom-corela-tot-timpul-belgradul.htm>

## Charts

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Rating	52.2
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Unfavourable %	0%
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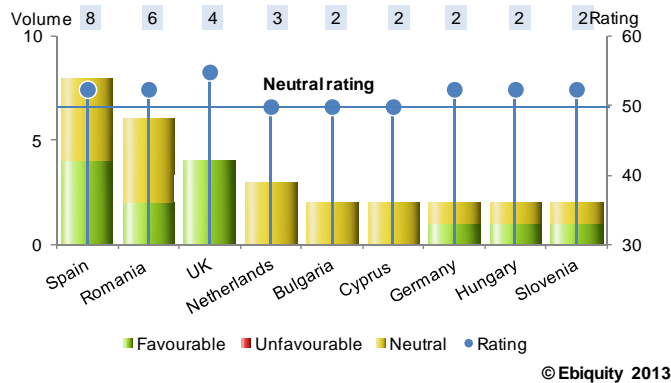
**ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
by volume, favourability & rating

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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	13
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	13
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	13
Traian Băsescu (President, Romania)	4
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	3
Ban Ki-moon (Secretary General, UN)	1
Dervis Eroğlu (Turkish Cypriot leader)	1

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