

## Key Quotes

Tanja Miscevic, head of the negotiating team for Serbia's EU accession, said in a recent interview that **"the path toward EU membership will be a long and painstaking one, and few believe this government will be in charge when the talks come to their conclusion"** ([bne.eu](http://www.bne.eu), DE, 5/9)

[http://www.bne.eu/storyf5325/Serbias\\_revamped\\_govt\\_faces\\_economic\\_revival\\_EU\\_accession\\_tasks](http://www.bne.eu/storyf5325/Serbias_revamped_govt_faces_economic_revival_EU_accession_tasks)

## Summary

### Serbia's new government

Serbia's Prime Minister Ivica Dačić said that Serbia's major strategic goals are to speed up the process of EU integration and ensure economic recovery and development. After the election of new ministers in the reshuffled Serbian government, Dačić expressed satisfaction about it receiving wide support. *"I am confident that this will inspire the government to work better in the future. The main strategic goals we set for ourselves are acceleration of European integration, which is in the interest of Serbia and its citizens, and, as a prerequisite to all other objectives, stabilisation of the economy"*he said ([balkans.com](http://www.balkans.com), CY, 4/9).

· [balkans.com, CY, 4/9, http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=181290](http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=181290)

### Role for Turkey in the Balkans

Gergely Prohle, deputy state secretary at the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, asserted that Turkey's EU accession should not be allowed to lapse as this could carry a negative message. After attending a forum in Bled, Slovenia, Prohle said central European leaders discussed regional and global issues, as well as the future of the European monetary union, the situation in the western Balkans, water management and Turkey's chances of EU membership. He added that the Syrian conflict underpinned the importance of Turkey's role in the region, including bringing stability to the region as a NATO member and ally and it also contributes to creating energy security. He also commented that for both historic and economic reasons Turkey should have a role in meetings concerning the future of western Balkan countries ([politics.hu](http://www.politics.hu), 3/9).

· [politics.hu, 3/9, http://www.politics.hu/20130903/foreign-ministry-official-says-eu-turkey-accession-talks-should-go-on/](http://www.politics.hu/20130903/foreign-ministry-official-says-eu-turkey-accession-talks-should-go-on/)

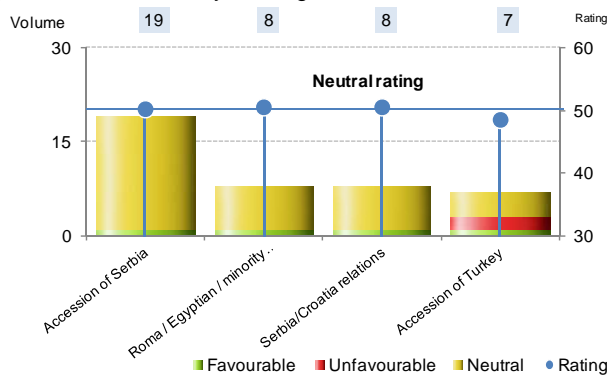
### Recognition for Kosovo

The Kosovo football federation has protested to FIFA after a player holding the country's passport was refused a Russian visa for a Europa League match last week. Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in February 2008 and has been recognised by at least 100 countries including the United States and 23 of the EU's 28 members, but not Russia. Russia, a Serbian ally and U.N. Security Council veto holder, has so far thwarted Kosovo's hopes of joining the United Nations. Kosovo, in turn, has not been able to join UEFA, which only accepts applications from countries which are recognised by the UN. FIFA allows its members to play teams from Kosovo in "youth, amateur, women's and club football" but has stopped short of permitting full internationals ([uk.reuters.com](http://uk.reuters.com), UK, 3/9).

· [uk.reuters.com, UK, 3/9, http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/09/03/uk-soccer-kosovo-fifa-idUKBRE9820IG20130903](http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/09/03/uk-soccer-kosovo-fifa-idUKBRE9820IG20130903)

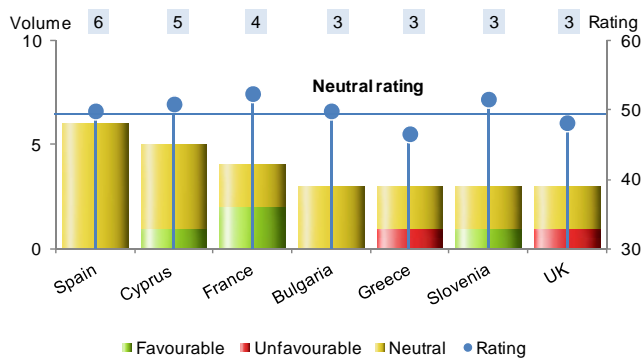
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Volume	31 items
Rating	50.2
Favourable %	12.9%
Unfavourable %	6.4%
Neutral %	80.7%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	14
Lazar Krstić (Finance Minister, Serbia)	11
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	1

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