

Key Quotes

IF Turkey wants to solve the Cyprus problem, as the most powerful party in the equation, it needs to launch a charm offensive on Greek Cypriots, who are currently in a completely weak position, said regional conflict analyst Hugh Pope. ***“No one has been killed in nearly two decades. De facto, what we have is a partition. It is not recognised, Greek Cypriots remain aggrieved, Turkish Cypriots remain isolated, and Turkey remains unable to have proper relations with the EU”*** (Cyprus Mail, CY, 10/9)

<http://cyprus-mail.com/2013/09/10/turkey-needs-to-launch-a-cyprus-charm-offensive/>

Summary

Breakthrough in negotiations between Kosovo and Serbia

Serbia and Kosovo made progress in EU-brokered normalization talks on Sunday, European Union's chief diplomat Catherine Ashton said. The Serbian and Kosovo prime ministers, Ivica Dačić and Hashim Thaçi, reached an agreement on telecoms and energy Ashton said in a statement and added *"Regarding the November municipal elections, we reviewed progress made and took some important decisions to ensure fair elections with the fullest possible participation in the electoral process"*. Dačić and Thaçi agreed that the working group on the elections will meet again in the coming days, so that decisions made Sunday are implemented in good time. Dačić and Thaçi reached a landmark normalization agreement under Ashton's auspices in April, but are continuing negotiations on how to implement it (europeonline-magazine.eu europeonline-magazine.eu, DE, 9/9). Under the agreements covering telecommunications and energy issues, Kosovo will apply for a three digit international dialling code, expected to be +383. Serbia secured the right for Serbian mobile operators to continue to function in Kosovo. Calls from fixed lines between Serbia and Kosovo will still be charged at a local rate. The sides also agreed that employees at the Valac power station in northern Kosovo will not have to sign work contracts with ethnic Albanian authorities (cellular-news.com, DE, 9/9).

- europeonline-magazine.eu europeonline-magazine.eu, DE, 9/9, http://en.europeonline-magazine.eu/lead-serbia-kosovo-move-forward-in-normalization-process-eu-says_296327.html
- cellular-news.com, DE, 9/9, <http://www.cellular-news.com/story/61905.php>

Kurdish militants say they are halting their withdrawal from Turkey

Kurdish militants said on Monday they had stopped withdrawing from Turkish soil, citing failures by the government to take steps agreed under a peace process, but pledged to maintain a cease-fire for now. Turkey, the United States and European Union all call the PKK a terrorist organisation. It took up arms to carve out an independent homeland in the south-east but later scaled back its demands to greater cultural rights and autonomy (trust.org, UK, 9/9).

- trust.org, UK, 9/9, <http://www.trust.org/item/20130909075529-emijl>

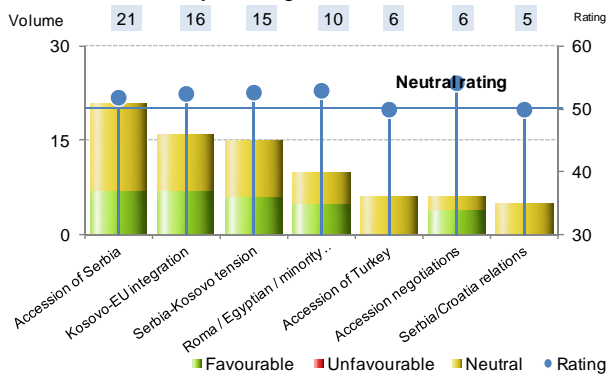
The main EU problems are political, not economical

Delo (SI, 9/9) quoting Vecer, asks how the EU will ensure both efficiency and democratic legitimacy and win the support of the public for further integration. It says the Bled Strategic Forum has become one of the largest forums for EU-related international relations, without any visible EU representation, that the EU is becoming increasingly marginalised in the world and many trends have been reversed and that today the EU needs Turkey at least as much as Turkey needs the Union. However, no revolution is expected, though the future integration is bound to be slow and cumbersome.

Delo SI, 9/9, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130907/mi/item_168395369.pdf

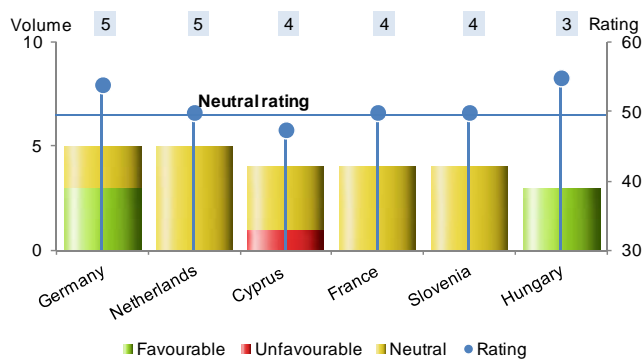
Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
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Volume	32 items
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Favourable %	21.9%
Unfavourable %	6.2%
Neutral %	71.9%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	15
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	15
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	14
Zoran Milanović (Prime Minister, Croatia)	3
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	2
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	1
Manfred Weber (MEP)	1

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