

Key Quotes

Poland continues to support the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's Euro Atlantic ambitions, Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski said. **"We Poles know well that the road to the fulfilment of these ambitions is not easy, and therefore we wish Macedonia determination and success"**, Komorowski declared (prezydent.pl, PL, 10/9).

<http://www.prezydent.pl/en/news/news/art,495,poland-supports-macedonias-euroatlantic-ambitions.html>

Bosnia and Herzegovina loses EU aid for agriculture because of politicking. **"The cancellation of these projects underlines the urgency to set up a functional coordination mechanism to ensure that the country and its population are able to receive EU pre-accession funds in the future,"** the EU delegation in Bosnia said in a statement (Yahoo!, UK, 10/9).

<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/bosnia-loses-eu-aid-agriculture-because-politicking-172857754.html#DnRjQ8K>

Summary

Reform of Serbian economy

The Serbian government was reshuffled last week in preparation for an assault on jobs, wages and pensions demanded by the European Union (EU) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). In early 2012, the IMF suspended a \$1.3 billion loan to Serbia over delays to structural reforms and spending cuts. Since then, the IMF and EU have repeatedly warned that further support is dependent on cuts to the public sector and the pension system (rinf.com, UK, 10/9).

- rinf.com, UK, 10/9, <http://rinf.com/alt-news/breaking-news/serbian-government-reshuffled-in-preparation-for-assault-on-workers-conditions/67775/>

Tit-for-tat trade dispute between Kosovo and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Kosovo has banned the import of all products from the neighbouring former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, officials said on Monday, in a tit-for-tat trade dispute that could cost producers from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia one of their most lucrative markets. In July, the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia imposed a measure to limit the import of wheat and flour from all members of the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA), including Kosovo, in an effort to protect domestic production. Kosovo responded by blocking imports of food from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. On Sunday, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia said it would impose fees on all Kosovo citizens entering the country. A government official said Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski and his Kosovo counterpart, Hashim Thaçi had discussed the dispute on Sunday evening but failed to find a solution. Kosovo imposed the blanket ban at midnight (reuters.com, UK, 9/9). The Association of Independent Unions of Transporters of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, MAKAMTRANS, described the trade war between the two countries as appalling. MAKAMTRANS Secretary General Biljana Muratovska said *"If the embargo remains in force, then from where will Kosovo import food at the same prices as from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia?"* (focus-fen.net, BG, 10/9).

- uk.reuters.com, UK, 9/9, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/09/09/uk-kosovo-macedonia-trade-idUKBRE9880DP20130909>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 10/9, <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n314602>

Significant debate continued on the name issue

The meeting between United Nations mediator Matthew Nimetz and Greek Foreign Minister Evangelos Venizelos has shed no light regarding the dispute over the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's name. In his statements after the discussion, the diplomat described the talks between Athens and Skopje as *"very difficult"* (newpost.gr, 9/9). A compromise is necessary to solve the name issue. Albanians consider Upper or Northern Macedonia as acceptable names, said Ali Ahmeti, leader of the Albanian party, the Democratic Union for Integration (DUI), which is part of the ruling coalition in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. According to him, all political leaders in Macedonia know there are two directions – isolation and integration. *"I think we should take the road of integration, not isolation,"* said Ahmeti (focus-fen.net, BG, 9/9).

- newpost.gr, 9/9, <http://newpost.gr/post/271345/nimits-dyskolh-h-diapragmateysh-epoikodomhtikh-h-synanthsh-me-benizelo>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 9/9, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n314547>

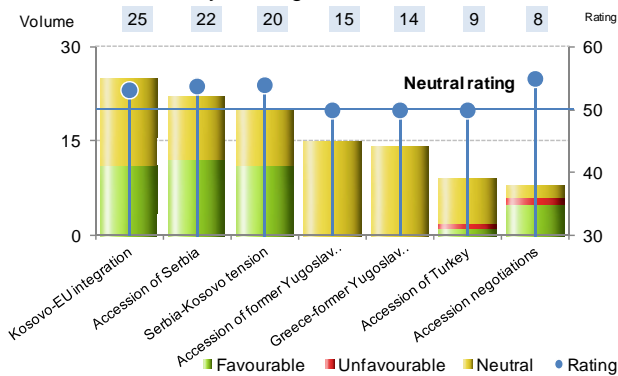
EBRD helping Turkey

The EBRD's Small Business Support team is helping Turkish companies such as Muka Metal shape up for growth. The work of the Small Business Support (SBS) team in Turkey is financed by pre-accession funds from the European Union. Turkey is still divided by a very visible economic disparity between east and west, and the EBRD-EU partnership provides a tangible way in which money can be channelled to the country's poorer, more remote regions (ebrd.com, UK, 9/9).

- ebrd.com, UK, 9/9, <http://www.ebrd.com/pages/news/press/2013/130909.shtml>

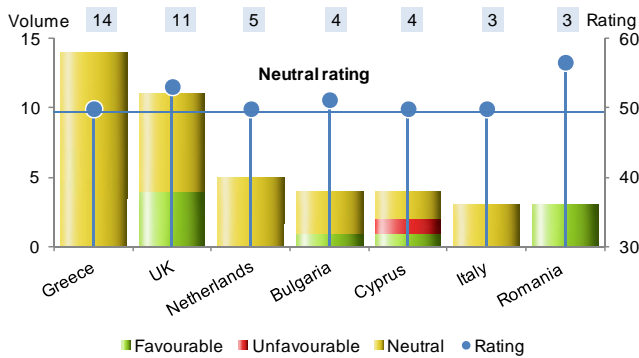
Charts

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Favourable %	25%
Unfavourable %	1.9%
Neutral %	73.1%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	18
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	15
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	13
Matthew Nimetz (Special Representative for the naming dispute between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, UN)	13
Evangelos Venizelos (Foreign Minister, Greece)	12
Nikola Gruevski (President, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	5

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