



Key Quotes

"I want to see Albania in the European Union as a full member in 10 years" said Edi Rama, Prime Minister of Albania (Mykosmos.gr, 18/9). http://www.mykosmos.gr/loc_mk/news/greece/2231306/mparozo-kai-rompai-sthrizoun-thn-kubernhsh-rama.htm

Dr. Bahadır Kaleağasi, the Brussels based international coordinator of the influential Turkish Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association (TUSIAD), said that the Turkish government is showing less interest in reforms since the country's EU membership process entered a stalemate in 2007. The EU, he feels, can still play a more constructive role in improving democratic standards in Turkey. "It is in EU's best interest to have a Turkey with advanced democracy," he said. "It is in European citizens' best interest" (dw.de, 17/9). <http://www.dw.de/turkeys-second-silent-revolution/a-17093332>

Summary

Serbian negotiating team in Brussels

Head of the team for negotiations with the EU Tanja Mišćević and Branko Ružić, the minister in charge of EU integration, were in Brussels on Tuesday holding a meeting with EU Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle. Mišćević told reporters in Belgrade that the meeting would discuss "the reforms that should be implemented, in which areas the situation is improved, and where work is still needed". She also stated that "the important issue will be the implementation of the Brussels agreement" (eurasia.ro, RO, 17/9). The German Ambassador to Serbia Heinz Wilhelm said "what is essential for Serbia's progress to the EU is the implementation of the Brussels agreement and, as part of that, the local elections in Kosovo on November 3" adding that Serbia was heading in a good direction and that the German government was satisfied because preparations for the local elections were going well. He commented that "the elections are vital for the process of normalisation of Belgrade-Pristina relations and the German government expects a high turnout of Serbs, in order for the European Council to give a date for the commencement of EU accession talks in December" (magyarszo.com, HU, 17/9).

- eurasia.ro, 17/9, <http://eurasia.ro/?p=50392>
- magyarszo.com, HU, 17/9, http://www.magyarszo.com/hu/2099/kozelet_politika/101500/Szerbia-lesz-a-k%C3%B6vetkez%C5%91.htm

Gay candidate for mayor in Turkey

Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu has received mixed reactions as he announced his candidacy to become the first openly gay mayor in the majority Muslim nation. Earlier this month, Turkey's Constitutional Consensus Committee suggested sexual minorities be protected against discrimination in the new constitution, a legislative move that could ease the country's entry into the European Union (gaystarnews.com, UK, 16/9).

- gaystarnews.com, UK, 16/9, <http://www.gaystarnews.com/article/istanbul-native-wants-become-turkeys-first-openly-gay-mayor160913>

Turkey and EU membership

Speaking in Brussels, Turkey's permanent representative in the EU Selim Yenel said that the Cyprus problem must be resolved for Turkey's EU accession negotiations to move ahead. He also asked for the EU to clarify its intentions towards Turkey, saying that the EU must decide if it wants a Europe with or without Turkey because the accession talks have been going on for 50 years and Turkey is tired. Today's situation, he continued, is leading nowhere and while neither side is willing to say that the talks will not continue, this may become necessary (Simerini, CY, 17/9). President Nicos Anastasiades of Cyprus has asked UN Special Adviser Alexander Downer to pass on a message to Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu regarding the Varosha package proposal. The proposal includes opening up the fenced off part of Famagusta under UN control, opening Famagusta port under EU supervision, and opening some blocked chapters in Turkey's EU accession negotiations (newsbeast.gr, 16/9).

- Simerini, CY, 17/9, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130917/mi/item_169330958.pdf
- newsbeast.gr, 16/9, <http://www.newsbeast.gr/world/arthro/583153/o-presvis-tis-tourkias-zitei-apo-tin-ee-na-einai-xekathari-meti-hora-tou/>

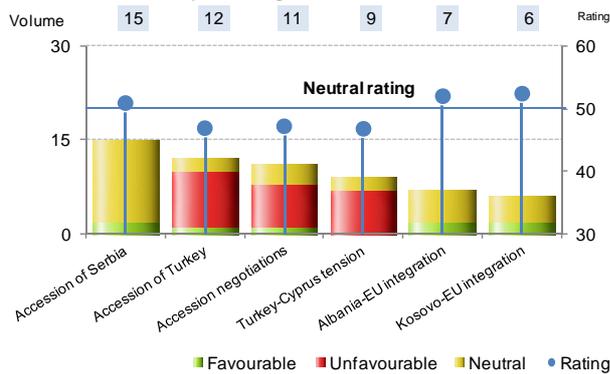
Albanian PM addresses European Parliament

The newly elected Prime Minister of Albania, Edi Rama, has said his election will usher in a new era of Albanian politics. Giving evidence to the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee on 16 September 2013, he promised he would "drive forward our renewal agenda". Mr Rama told MEPs the election was a sign that the Albanian people "did not just want a change of prime minister but a change of direction". He has put forward a strongly pro-EU programme, reflecting wide popular support in Albania for EU membership (bbc.co.uk, 16/9)

- bbc.co.uk, 16/9, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/democracylive/europe-24109319>

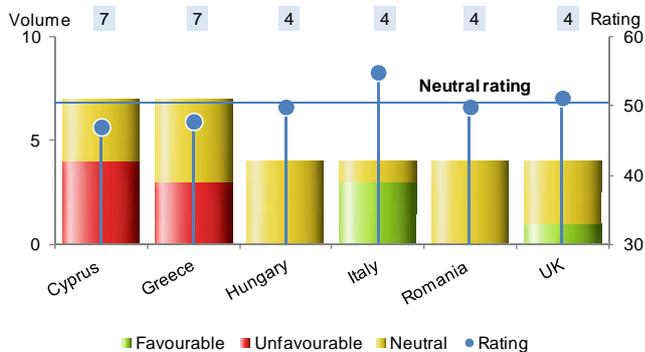
Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
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ELARG: Highlights
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Volume	35 items
Rating	50.1
Favourable %	17.1%
Unfavourable %	20%
Neutral %	62.9%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Ivan Mrkić (Foreign Minister, Serbia)	7
Edi Rama (Prime Minister, Albania)	5
Selim Yenel (Permanent Delegate of Turkey to the EU)	5
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	3
Ahmet Davutoğlu (Foreign Minister, Turkey)	2
Alexander Downer (Special Adviser on Cyprus, UN)	2

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