

Key Quotes

Serbia-Montenegro: Dačić is in Podgorica to improve relations. The desire to improve and bolster relations between Serbia and Montenegro was underscored by Serbian Prime Minister Ivica Dačić and his Montenegrin counterpart Milo Đukanović. Ivica Dačić noted that "**mutual distrust had thus far dominated relations between the two countries, and many issues are still unresolved**" (ansamed.info, IT, 23/9) http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/it/notizie/stati/serbia/2013/09/23/Serbia-Montenegro-Dacic-Podgorica-migliorare-rapporti_9346634.html

Summary

Turkish Pianist Fazil Say re-sentenced to prison for 'Blasphemous Tweets'

Prominent Turkish pianist and composer Fazil Say has been re-sentenced to 10 months in prison by an Istanbul court over tweets he published about Islam. Say, who has performed with the New York Philharmonic and been an ambassador to the EU, had previously been given a 10 month suspended jail term for a series of tweets deemed blasphemous by conservative Muslims, including one citing a thousand-year-old poem (ibtimes.co.uk, 20/9). The European Commission has expressed its "concern" and called on Ankara to respect "full" freedom of expression (athina984.gr, 20/9). Say has been sentenced for insulting Islam (protothema.gr, 20/9)

- ibtimes.co.uk, 20/9, <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/articles/507700/20130920/turkish-pianist-fazil-tweet-prison.htm>
- athina984.gr, 20/9, <http://www.athina984.gr/node/25888>
- protothema.gr, 20/9, <http://www.protothema.gr/world/article/312462/tourkia-deka-mines-fulaki-me-anastoli-ston-pianista-pou-prosevale-to-islam/>

Continued violence in northern Kosovo

After the attack on EULEX vehicles that killed a soldier on Thursday, the wave of violence in Northern Kosovo continues to rage. On Friday, a shell exploded in Mitrovica. The EU's constitutional state mission, which assists in the development of police, administration and the judiciary, is particularly disliked by the Serbian minority. EU Kosovo Office Director Samuel Žbogar said that it was obvious that "*not everybody is interested in bringing normality to Northern Kosovo*" (Kurier, AT, 21/9) adding "*with the investigation under way, there can be no speculation about the causes of the incident*" (Dnevnik, SI, 21/9). The current situation in Kosovo and the ongoing Belgrade-Pristina dialogue topped discussions on September 22 2013 when UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, met Hashim Thaçi, Kosovo prime minister, and Serbian President Tomislav Nikolić, the UN News Centre said. Speaking at the United Nations Headquarters in New York ahead of the high-level General Assembly debate, Ban emphasised the importance of close cooperation with the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and other international presences for the benefit of the "*normalisation*" and confidence-building between Kosovo and Serbia (balkaneu.com, CY, 23/9).

- Kurier, AT, 21/9, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130921/mi/item_170037461.pdf
- Dnevnik, SI, 21/9, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20130921/mi/item_170031438.pdf
- balkaneu.com, CY, 23/9, <http://www.balkaneu.com/chief-meets-leaders-serbia-kosovo/>

New York meeting to discuss former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia name dispute

EU Commissioner on Enlargement Štefan Füle will meet on Monday in New York, the UN mediator in the name dispute Matthew Nimetz, Radio Free Europe reported. The radio announced that yesterday, Greek Foreign Minister Evangelos Venizelos and UN Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon had a meeting where one focus was to resolve the dispute over the name with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (focus-fen.net, BG, 23/9).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 23/9, <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n315283>

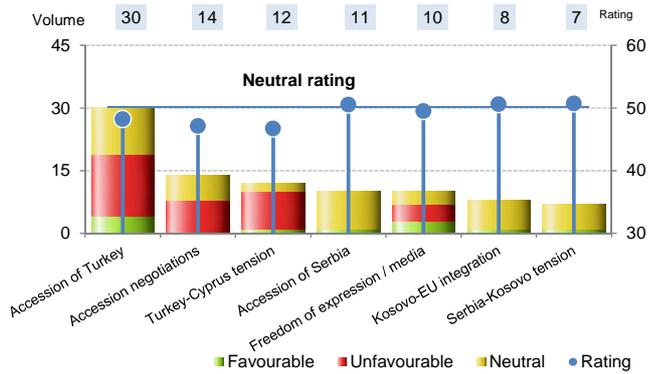
Yalta Meeting

With rising anti-EU sentiment rising among existing members, Britain promising a referendum on membership and Iceland withdrawing its application because of the fragility of the eurozone, the prospects for enlargement are looking bleaker than champions of the European project would want. However, at the 11th Yalta Meeting, which is designed to promote European integration with Ukraine, Štefan Füle, the EU Commissioner for Enlargement, said despite the union's difficulties, it was right to seek expansion. "*It is not a policy that should just be reserved for good times*" he said. "*In fact it makes me proud that at this time of difficulty that there are still countries knocking on the door. I only hope the result of referendum the British people will vote for will be what will be the best for the UK, which is to stay in the EU*". (telegraph.co.uk, 21/9).

- telegraph.co.uk, 21/9, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/turkey/10325218/Turkey-will-probably-never-be-EU-member.html>

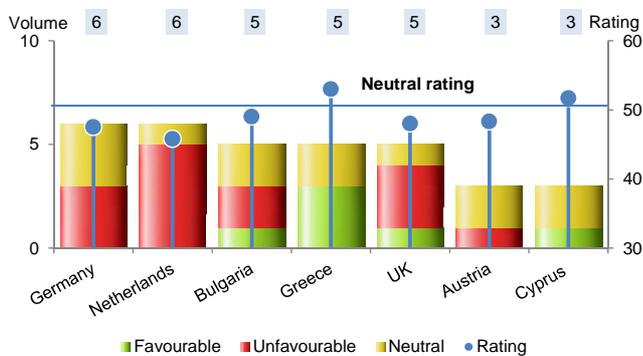
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Unfavourable %	36.4%
Neutral %	50%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Egemen Bağış (Minister for European Affairs, Turkey)	20
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	5
Fazıl Say (Turkish pianist and composer)	5
Samuel Žbogar (Head of the EU Office in Kosovo)	2
Wolfgang Schäuble (Federal Minister of Finance, Germany)	2
Dominique Strauss-Kahn (Former Head of IMF)	2
Alfred Gusenbauer (ex-Chancellor of Austria)	2
Angela Merkel (Chancellor, Germany)	2

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