

## Key Quotes

BBC Online: *"Turkey seen as not European enough to join EU"* (BBC Online, UK, 5/11) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-24815158>

Kosovo poll violence blow to the European course of Belgrade. Maja Kocijancic, spokesperson for EU Foreign Policy Chief Catherine Ashton, condemned *"the violent incidents (...) in northern Mitrovica which disrupted the otherwise orderly run electoral process in the rest of Kosovo"* ([fr.news.yahoo.com](http://fr.news.yahoo.com), FR, 4/11) <http://fr.news.yahoo.com/violences-%C3%A9lectorales-au-kosovo-coup-dur-parcours-europ%C3%A9en-115434747.html>

## Summary

### Low Serb participation in Kosovo municipal elections

An election in Kosovo designed to help end years of de facto ethnic partition was marred by violence and intimidation by Serb hardliners on Sunday. Two hours before polls closed in the ethnically divided town of Mitrovica, a volatile Serb pocket of northern Kosovo, masked men burst into three schools housing polling stations on the Serb side, lobbing tear gas and smashing ballot boxes. Serbia had called on Serbs in northern Kosovo to take part for the first time, with the EU holding out the prospect of membership talks - scheduled to begin in January - as a reward for Belgrade's support for the process. But on the mainly Serb side of Mitrovica, a former mining town split along ethnic lines since Kosovo's 1998-99 war, turnout was just 7% by mid-afternoon, compared with 32% across the country (Guardian, UK, 4/11). The low turnout and violence was a clear indication of the scale of resistance to integration with the rest of Kosovo among north Kosovo Serbs. Voting in north Mitrovica was halted after the attack at around 5 p.m. Election officials fled and European Union police in armoured vehicles spread out through the neighbourhood as helicopters flew over the town. *"These elections are an act of high treason that will ultimately cut Kosovo off from Serbia and lead to a Serb exodus from Kosovo"* said 22-year-old student Negovan Todorovic ([uk.reuters.com](http://uk.reuters.com), UK, 3/11). Many Serbs fear that voting in the election gives legitimacy to the Kosovo government. Nevertheless EU Foreign Policy Chief Catherine Ashton called the elections *"a key moment in Kosovo's future and an important element in the process of normalisation of relations between Kosovo and Serbia"* ([uk.news.yahoo.com](http://uk.news.yahoo.com), UK, 3/11). Delo (SI, 4/11) reports that Brussels, despite the low turnout, is likely to recognise the results of elections in northern Kosovo.

- Guardian, UK, 4/11, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131104/mj/item\\_174917258.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131104/mj/item_174917258.pdf)
- [uk.reuters.com](http://uk.reuters.com), UK, 3/11, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/11/03/uk-kosovo-election-idUKBRE9A204420131103?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews>
- [uk.news.yahoo.com](http://uk.news.yahoo.com), UK, 3/11, <http://uk.news.yahoo.com/kosovo-vote-key-test-eu-backed-deal-serbia-054729417.html#Mpe9QPE>
- Delo, SI, 4/11 [link not available]

### Elections in the rest of Kosovo

Among the 1.8 million Albanians in Kosovo, however, the election looked much as usual, except for an unexpected element: a new party, the *"Party of the Strong"*. Led by its self-styled *"legendary president"*, a 26-year old graphic designer called Visar Arifaj, the party's logo is the double-headed Albanian eagle, albeit sporting comedic bulging wing muscles. The party, though funny, is deadly serious about its aims. And in the bombastically nationalist, male dominated, croneyist world of Kosovo politics, it is something new and increasingly popular (Independent-On-Sunday, UK, 3/11).

- Independent-On-Sunday, UK, 3/11, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131103/mj/item\\_174840680.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131103/mj/item_174840680.pdf)

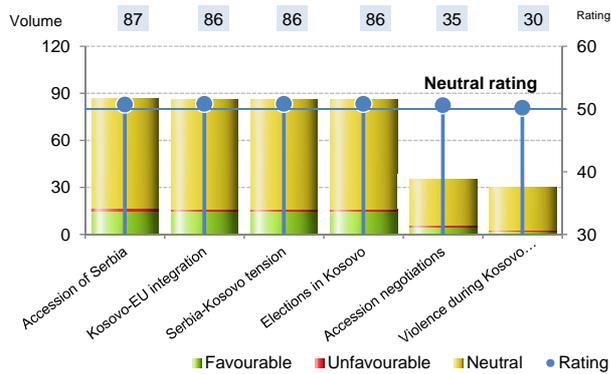
### Machinations by EC and Britain

The European Commission and UK government are attempting to unblock chapters in Turkey's EU accession negotiations that have been blocked by Cyprus. The effort, which aims to remove the Cyprus block to Turkey's accession talks, is expected to be launched with the official opening of the chapter on Regional Policy at an intergovernmental conference attended by Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle and Turkish EU Affairs Minister Egemen Bağış (ANT-1-TV-Cyprus, CY, 2/11).

- ANT-1-TV-Cyprus, CY, 2/11, [link not available]

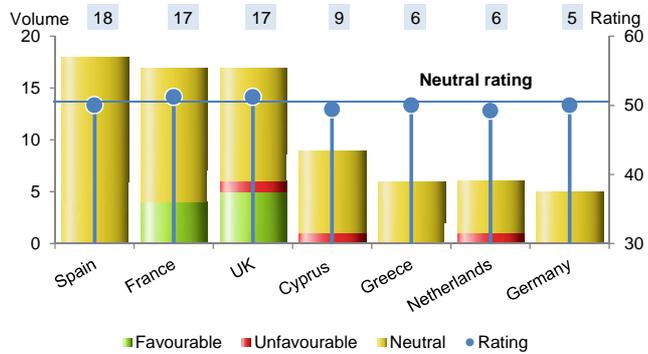
## Charts

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<b>Volume</b>	101 items
<b>Rating</b>	50.5
<b>Favourable %</b>	14.9%
<b>Unfavourable %</b>	4.0%
<b>Neutral %</b>	81.1%

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

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<b>ELARG: Stakeholders &amp; Sources</b>	<b>Number of mentions</b>
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	29
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	28
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	12
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	6
Ban Ki-moon (Secretary General, UN)	5
Atifete Jahjaga (President, Kosovo)	5

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