

Key Quotes

U.N. struggles to break impasse in Cyprus talks. United Nations envoys have been shuttling between the two sides of the split Mediterranean island trying to agree on the wording of a joint statement by Greek and Turkish Cypriots to pave the way for resuming talks after an 18-month hiatus. **"We are all putting a huge effort into this joint declaration, it's a very important component of the process and the Secretary-General wants the two leaders to agree on a joint declaration, so work is still proceeding,"** said Alexander Downer, Ban Ki-moon's special representative for the island (uk.reuters.com, UK, 6/11).

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/11/06/uk-cyprus-un-idUKBRE9A513S20131106>

Government of Kosovo supports the decision of the Central Election Commission to hold fresh elections in three poll centers in the north of Mitrovica. Prime Minister of Kosovo, Hashim Thaçi has stressed that the November 3 elections have fully legitimized the agreement reached on April 19 with Serbia. **"It would be best if the elections in the north of Mitrovica are held before the second round of the municipal elections on December 1,"** said Thaçi ([balkan.eu.com](http://www.balkan.eu.com), GR, 7/11).

<http://www.balkan.eu.com/kosovo-pm-thaci-supports-cec-decision/>

Summary

A new chapter open in EU accession negotiations, between Turkey and the European Commission

Turkey and the EU began a round of membership talks months after member states delayed them in protest at Ankara's drive against anti-government demonstrations. Officials spoke of momentum in the fresh talks (Times, UK, 6/11), highlighting their will to speed up the process of Turkey's accession. Commissioner Štefan Füle and the Turkish Minister for EU Affairs Egemen Bağış officially opened chapter 22 concerning regional policy. Mr Füle called on the Turkish government to further commit to allowing the opening of other chapters concerning fundamental rights, justice, freedom and safety (Naftemporiki, EL, 6/11). Both parties have expressed a desire to speed up the accession process after more than three years of stagnation. The logic of Enlargement said Commissioner Štefan Füle is that *"respect for civil rights in Turkey can only be improved by continuing the dialogue with Ankara"* (Delo, SI, 6/11). Turkish European Affairs Minister, Egemen Bağış, declared that the step represented a *"turn in the relations between the European Union and Turkey"* (Curentul, RO, 6/11). Referring to an EU official's call for greater engagement with Turkey, Bağış joked: *"We are ready to not only get engaged, but also get married"* (Cyprus-Mail, CY, 6/11).

- Times, UK, 6/11, [link not available]
- Naftemporiki, EL, 6/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131106/mi/item_175281457.pdf
- Delo, SI, 6/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131106/mi/item_175280340.pdf
- Curentul, RO, 6/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131106/mi/item_175270085.pdf
- Cyprus-Mail, CY, 6/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131106/mi/item_175280080.pdf

Election re-run in Kosovo

Kosovo's Central Election Commission says a municipal election will be re-run at three polling stations in the Serb-dominated north where it was disrupted by violence on November 3. CEC member Nenad Rikalo told RFE/RL (CZ, 6/11) that voting materials from the polling stations in the town of Mitrovica were *"totally unusable"* after masked men stormed and ransacked the facilities. A date for the rerun will be announced on November 6. Votes in three other Serb-dominated municipalities in the north are expected to be counted as valid.

- RFE/RL, CZ, 6/11, <http://www.rferl.org/content/voting-mitrovica-repeat/25159669.htm>

Name dispute

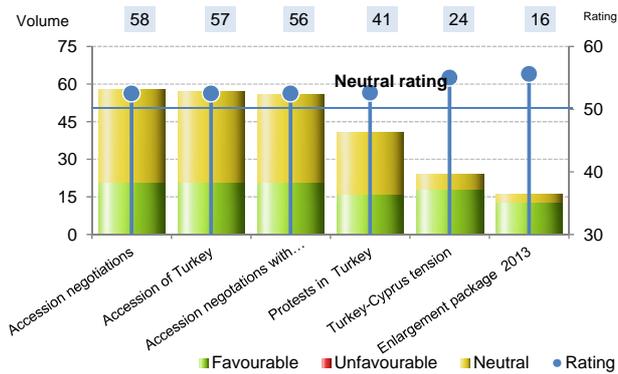
Bulgaria and Serbia use the abbreviation FYRoM [sic] (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) only when they are angry, on all other occasions they call our country Macedonia [sic], Dnevnik daily of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia writes. According to the author of the article, Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs Kristiyan Vigenin used the term FYRoM on purpose while on a visit to Greek capital Athens. Dnevnik daily makes the remark that Vuk Jeremić, former Serbian Minister of Foreign Affairs, also often uses FYRoM instead of Macedonia, and that former Croatian Prime Minister Ivo Sanader did the same at a Thessaloniki-held sitting aimed at aiding regional cooperation.

"This is a threat, a sign that there is something wrong with Macedonia's [sic] relations with these countries," Dnevnik cites an unnamed diplomat from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. He thinks that the usage of the term Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is not accidental and sees this as a warning that the countries using it are willing to take the side of Greece in the name dispute (focus-fen.net, BG, 6/11). German Chancellor Angela Merkel has met with UN envoy in the name talks Matthew Nimetz, and agreed that obstacles can be overcome if there is political will (newpost.gr, EL, 5/11).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 6/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n318308>
- newpost.gr, EL, 5/11, <http://newpost.gr/post/291152/synanthsh-mysthrio-merkel-nimits-gia-to-skopiano>

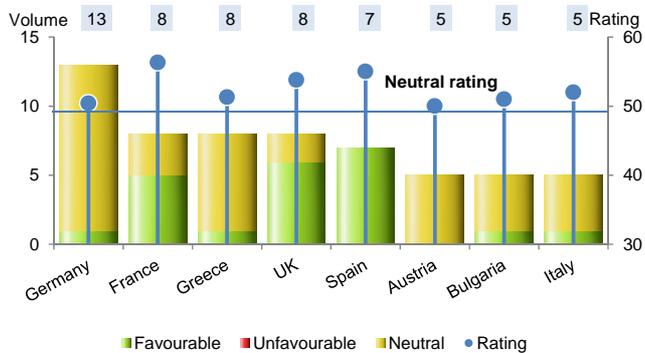
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Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	34.2%

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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)	31
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	27
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	12
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	7
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	7
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	6
Karolos Papoulias (President, Greece)	4

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