

## Key Quotes

The European Commission gave the green light to the 2013 national programme for Albania under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance. **"Albania has shown its commitment to the integration process,"** said the EU Commissioner for Enlargement, Štefan Füle. **"Reforms, however, need to be sustained and I am confident that this year's programme will help Albania do that and bring positive change to the lives of its citizens,"** he added (Milanofinanza.it, IT, 13/11).

[http://www.milanofinanza.it/news/dettaqlio\\_news.asp?id=201311131637004853&chkAgenzia=TMFI&sez=cambi&testo=&titolo=Albania.%20Oluce%20verde%20dall'Ue%20a%20programma%20aiuti](http://www.milanofinanza.it/news/dettaqlio_news.asp?id=201311131637004853&chkAgenzia=TMFI&sez=cambi&testo=&titolo=Albania.%20Oluce%20verde%20dall'Ue%20a%20programma%20aiuti)

## Summary

### Greece supports Turkey's bid to join the European Union

"I hope that the necessary conditions for Turkey's accession to EU will be fulfilled and Turkey will join the union as soon as possible," the Greek Ambassador to Ankara, Kyriakos Loukakis, said, while touching on Turkey's application process to accede to the European Union during his visit to the northern Turkish province of Trabzon. Loukakis also said Turkey and Greece have achieved a lot in terms of their mutual economic and cultural relations. **"We can do more"** the Greek ambassador said in calling to further develop relations (ansamed.info, IT, 12/11). The Swedish Ambassador, Lars Wahlund also expressed support for Turkey's EU accession bid. **"We are very happy, we have opened Chapter 22 on regional polices in Turkey's EU negotiations. We hope that we can open chapters 23 and 24"** he said, referring to the chapters on judiciary and fundamental rights and justice, freedom and security, respectively. He also expressed optimism over visa-free travel for Turkish citizens to European countries by saying **"We are hopeful that we can open up visa liberalization."** Wahlund said achieving progress in Cyprus talks will boost the Turkish-EU accession process. He also called on Turkish business people to invest in Sweden by saying that the visit of Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan with a delegation of 200 businessmen on November 7 had accelerated economic ties between Turkey and Sweden (hri.org, CY, 12/11).

- ansamed.info, IT, 12/11, [http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/nations/turkey/2013/11/12/EU-Greece-supports-Turkey-accession-bid-ambassador-says\\_9607323.html](http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/nations/turkey/2013/11/12/EU-Greece-supports-Turkey-accession-bid-ambassador-says_9607323.html)
- hri.org, CY, 12/11, <http://www.hri.org/news/cyprus/tcpr/2013/13-11-12.tcpr.html>

### European Commission to help Albania

The European Commission will help Albania during its accession process, EU Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle said Tuesday in the Albanian capital. The commissioner launched his initiative, the first of its kind, to hold a total of five high-level meetings during next year. **"The aim is to structure cooperation between Albania and the EU and to help the country focus on carrying out necessary reforms"**, Füle explained. The EU Commission in October recommended Tirana be granted candidate status. But first, Albania must carry out reform in five areas: the rule of law, public administration, human rights, organized crime, and corruption. **"We have agreed to write up a plan of action so that with our assistance, Albania can get results on these priorities"**, Füle said. The commissioner said Albanian authorities have shown their commitment to fighting corruption and organized crime. **"We will share the significant information we have obtained with member States before the December council meeting"**, Füle said (ansamed.ansa.it, IT, 12/11). Eleftherotyia (EL, 13/11) commented that the Greek government supports the European perspective of Albania, despite the fact that the message it receives is not at all positive.

- ansamed.ansa.it, IT, 12/11, [http://ansamed.ansa.it/ansamed/it/notizie/stati/albania/2013/11/12/Albania-Fuele-assisteremo-percorso-Tirana-verso-Ue\\_9607834.html](http://ansamed.ansa.it/ansamed/it/notizie/stati/albania/2013/11/12/Albania-Fuele-assisteremo-percorso-Tirana-verso-Ue_9607834.html)
- Eleftherotyia, EL, 13/11, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131113/mi/item\\_176098997.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20131113/mi/item_176098997.pdf)

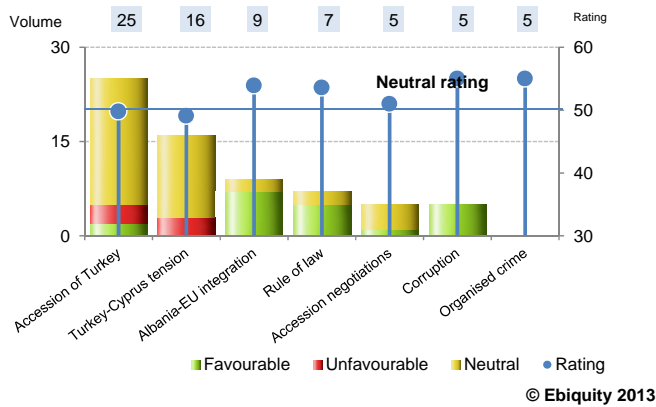
### Prime Minister of Serbia, Ivica Dačić in Kosovo on Friday.

General Secretary of the Serb government, Velko Odalović, said on Tuesday that on Friday November 15, Mr Dačić will visit the north of Mitrovica. The Serb prime minister hasn't scheduled any meetings with senior Albanian officials of Kosovo or a visit to Pristina. Mr Dačić is expected to go to Mitrovica to encourage the Serb minority of Kosovo to participate in the November 17 local government elections and to support the "Srpska" list and its candidates in these elections (balkan.eu.com, CY, 12/11).

- balkan.eu.com, CY, 12/11, <http://www.balkan.eu.com/serb-prime-minister-ivica-dacic-hold-visit-kosovo-elections/>

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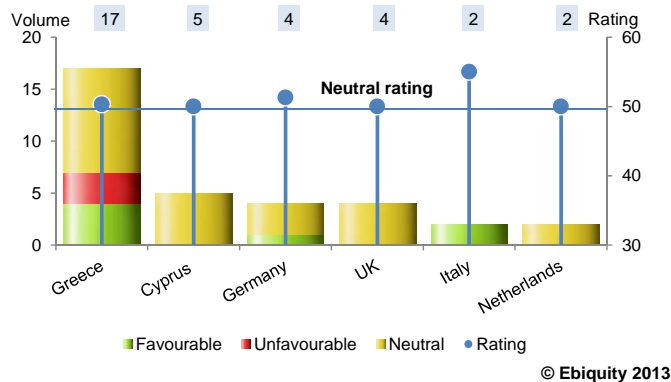
**ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	20
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	8
Edi Rama (Prime Minister, Albania)	7
Marietta Giannakou (MEP)	6
Eleni Theocharous (MEP)	6
George Koumoutsakos (MEP)	4

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