



## Key Quotes

Turkey's role in supplying energy is vital for the European Union's energy security, President Abdullah Gül has said, urging the union to consider Turkey's key position during accession talks. Expressing his regret that the energy chapter in the negotiations between the EU and Turkey had not yet begun, Gül called on the union to step up to the plate regarding the issue. ***"I believe it's important to underline that energy is one of the blocked chapters in our membership negotiations with the EU. Despite our efforts, this is a great contradiction and is unfortunate. No doubt, the side that should resolve this contradiction is the EU,"*** he said (Natural Gas Europe, UK, 22/11).

<http://www.naturalgaseurope.com/abdullah-gl-turkey-eu-energy-security>

## Summary

### Tension between Greece and Cyprus

The diplomatic spat between Greece and Turkey, prompted by Turkish Deputy Prime Minister *Bülent Arıncı* suggesting last week that he would like to see Hagia Sophia become a mosque, continued on Wednesday with Ankara saying it had *"nothing to learn from Greece about religious freedoms"*. Athens had reacted strongly to Arıncı's comment and Turkey's Foreign Ministry responded in equally blunt terms to criticism from Greece saying *"Turkey has always paid utmost attention to the sanctity of places of worship,"* and adding *"On the other hand, negligence of Ottoman places of worship and cultural monuments in Greece is widely known. Athens is the only European capital said to be hosting a Muslim community numbering hundreds of thousands without a mosque open for worship."* Greek diplomatic sources said Athens would consider whether it would respond as it is wary of Turkey bringing non-bilateral issues into discussions between the two countries (ekathimerini.com, EL, 20/11).

· ekathimerini.com, EL, 20/11, [http://www.ekathimerini.com/4dcqi/w\\_articles\\_wsite1\\_1\\_20/11/2013\\_528733](http://www.ekathimerini.com/4dcqi/w_articles_wsite1_1_20/11/2013_528733)

### South Stream pipeline

The agreement to build South Stream in Serbia is in collision with EU rules on many points, said the deputy director of the Energy Community Secretariat. *"The way in which the inter-state agreement between Serbia and Russia is currently drawn up is not in accordance with the rules of the Energy Community,"* Dirk Buschle told the Beta news agency going on to say that if new energy infrastructure such as South Stream is being built, *"it must ensure that a third party can benefit from it"* adding *"It is possible to ask for an exception, but it is necessary to start the procedure and that was never initiated either by Gazprom or Srbjagas, or any of the companies involved in the South Stream project"* (balkans.com, UK, 20/11).

· balkans.com, UK, 20/11, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=185090>

### Elections in Kosovo

After the local elections in Kosovo, there is no chance of division or federalisation of the country over ethnicity, said Kosovo Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi during the sitting of the UN Security Council. Thaçi remarked that the local elections were held in a fair and democratic atmosphere. In his words, the incidents reported in the first round of the elections were caused by Serbian extremists (focus-fen.net, BG, 21/11).

· focus-fen.net, BG, 21/11, <http://focus-fen.net/?id=n319139>

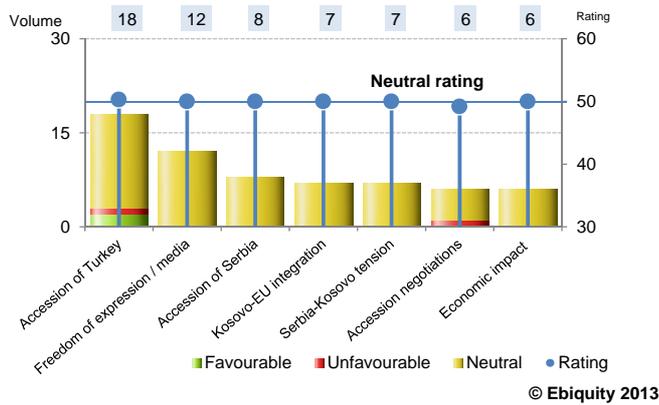
### Cyprus Problem

Main Cypriot leader, AKEL's Andros Kyprianou, yesterday accused the government of *"acrobatics"* in its handling of the Cyprus problem, prompting a denial from a government spokesman. Briefing reporters on his recent meetings with UN, US and EU officials in Brussels, New York and Washington, Kyprianou suggested President Nicos Anastasiades had drifted away from the long-standing positions of the National Council. During his world tour, Kyprianou met a range of officials in Brussels, the UN and US who deal with the Cyprus problem, including EU Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle, Director of the Europe Division for Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Jeffrey Feltman, Elizabeth Spehar, US Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and her deputy Eric Rubin. Meanwhile, the Greek Cypriot negotiator in the peace talks Andreas Mavroyiannis yesterday briefed the House Refugee Committee on the president's proposal for the return of Varosha to its lawful inhabitants in exchange for the opening of Famagusta port and the unblocking of some of Turkey's EU accession chapters (cyprus-mail.com, CY, 21/11).

· cyprus-mail.com, CY, 21/11, <http://cyprus-mail.com/2013/11/21/akel-no-room-for-acrobatics-over-talks/>

## Charts

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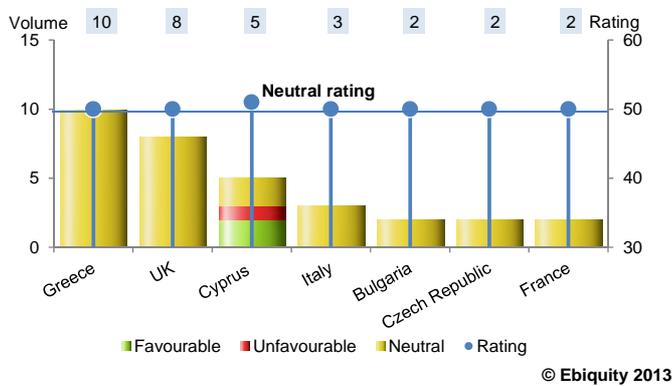
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Volume	32 items
Rating	50.2
Favourable %	6.3%
Unfavourable %	3.1%
Neutral %	90.6%

**ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	4
Mark Harper (Immigration Minister, UK)	4
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	3
Peter Stano (Spokesperson Enlargement, EC)	2
José Manuel Barroso (President, EC)	2
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	2

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