



Key Quotes

"Greece had always been a strong supporter of EU enlargement policy, especially in the Western Balkans," said Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Dimitris Kourkoulas, stressing that *"we will use our role as Presidency of the EU Council to contribute, in concrete terms, to the European integration of the region"* ([athina984.gr](http://www.athina984.gr), GR, 25/11) <http://www.athina984.gr/node/268154>

Summary

Turkey - EU Relations

In an interview with Delo, Turkish diplomat Hasan Gogus, starting his term as ambassador to Austria said that *"Without Turkey, the EU cannot claim to be a secular club"* And he stressed that *"The June demonstrations and the brutal response of Erdoğan's government raise even more questions about the state of democracy in the country....Turkey needs the EU more than it is prepared to admit"* (Delo, SI, 23/11).

Financial assistance programme for the Turkish Cypriot community

The European Commission approved a new €31 million financial assistance programme for the Turkish Cypriot community. This renewed funding is the continuation of a successful EU funded programme, which focuses on promoting the economic integration of the island and improving contacts between the two communities and the EU with the overall objective of facilitating reunification (Politis-Cyprus, 23/11).

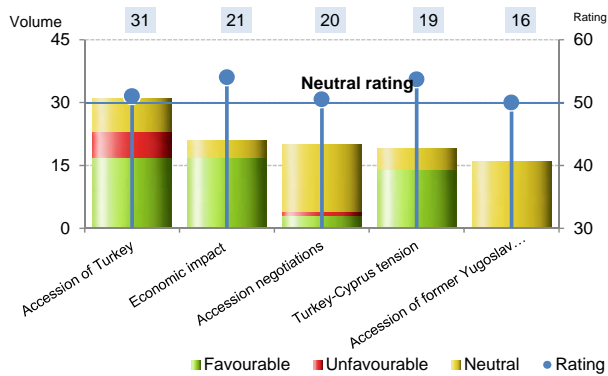
No date for accession negotiations with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

It was widely reported in Greece that the European Council will not set a date for the launch of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's EU accession talks in December ([nooz.gr](http://www.nooz.gr), EL, 23/11). Meanwhile the United Macedonian Diaspora has sent a letter to German Chancellor Angela Merkel asking Berlin *"to recognise the constitutional name of 'Macedononia'"* writes Macedonian Vecer daily. The letter comes after the meeting between Angela Merkel and the UN special representative for the naming dispute between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Matthew Nimetz. *"The time of useless negotiations is over and Germany should recognise Macedonia under the country's constitutional name,"* the letter reads (focus-fen.net, BG, 25/11).

- [nooz.gr](http://www.nooz.gr), EL, 23/11, <http://www.nooz.gr/world/oxi-kai-pali-se-imerominia-gia-tin-pgdm>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 25/11, <http://focus-fen.net/?id=n319424>

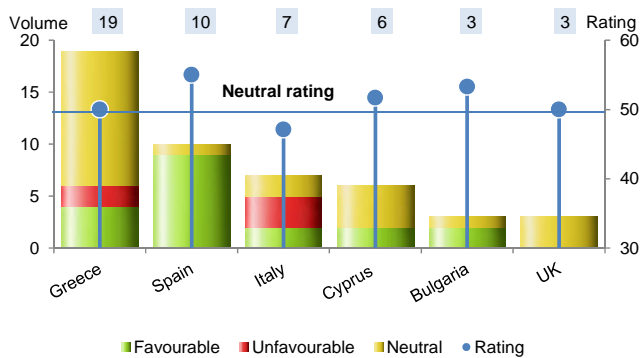
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Unfavourable %	11.1%
Neutral %	53.7%

ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	17
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	7
Dervis Eroğlu (Turkish Cypriot leader)	3
Nicos Anastasiades (President, Cyprus)	3
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	2
Ban Ki-moon (Secretary General, UN)	2

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