



## Key Quotes

Greek Ambassador to Turkey Kyriakos Loukakis said on Thursday that Greece will continue to fully support Turkey's European Union (EU) bid process despite the Cyprus dispute, local Anadolu Agency reported. **"I would like to assure that Greek presidency will be very supportive to Turkey's efforts in its EU accession process,"** Loukakis said, indicating that Greece has given full support to Turkey's EU accession process in the past 10 years (neurope.eu, BE, 3/1).

<http://www.neurope.eu/news/wire/greece-promises-continuous-support-turkeys-eu-accession>

## Summary

### Erdoğan rallies Turks to thwart 'plot' against nation's success

Turkey's government said on Tuesday it was fending off a "mini coup attempt" by elements in the police and judiciary who served the interests of foreign and domestic forces bent on humbling the country. Deputy Prime Minister Ali Babacan said the ruling AK Party had in the past survived military coup plots and attempts in the courts to outlaw it. It would not now yield to a corruption investigation he said targeted the government but that was already damaging the national economy (uk.reuters.com, UK, 31/12). Prime Minister Tayyip Erdoğan urged Turks to rally around him in fighting what he termed a dirty plot by foreign-backed elements targeting "the bread on your table, the money in your pocket, the sweat of your brow" (uk.reuters.com, UK, 1/1). "History will not forgive those who have become mixed up in this game," Erdoğan said in a televised end of year address devoted almost entirely to a corruption investigation he says has been engineered to undermine his government and sap its influence in the Middle East and beyond. Erdoğan closed his address on a defiant tone, saying 2014 would be a year in which accession talks with the European Union would move forward and democratic reforms gather pace (marketnews.gr, EL, 2/1).

- uk.reuters.com, UK, 31/12, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/12/31/uk-turkey-corruption-idUKBRE9BU0BE20131231>
- uk.reuters.com, UK, 1/1, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/01/01/uk-turkey-corruption-idUKBREA000BB20140101>
- marketnews.gr, EL, 2/1, [http://marketnews.gr/article/9520/erdoqan\\_historia\\_den\\_tha\\_syqxwrhsei\\_tous\\_synomwtes](http://marketnews.gr/article/9520/erdoqan_historia_den_tha_syqxwrhsei_tous_synomwtes)

### Albania to seek candidate status in 2014

The Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama said that the Balkan country will try hard to get the EU candidate status in June 2014. "The Albanian government will be held accountable for what belongs to the government. We shall make our best so that June turns out to be the time for a proper decision on Albania," Rama said, in response to questions about the government's responsibility if Albania fails to get the status of the EU candidate country by June. Mr. Rama said that extremist political forces will not influence the goal of the government to achieve the EU candidate status in June (neurope.eu, BE, 31/12).

- neurope.eu, BE, 31/12, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/rama-candidate-status-albania-june>

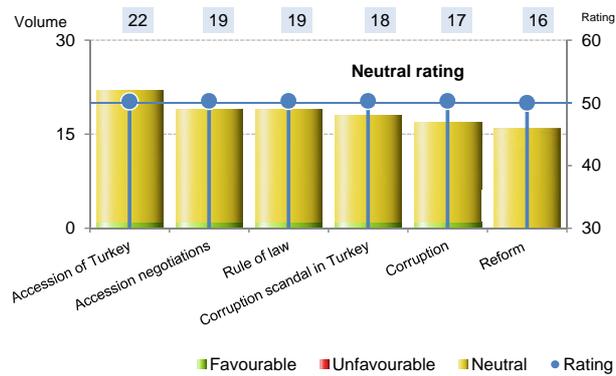
### Romanian and Bulgarian passport giveaway

Widely reported in the British and Balkan media was the story that hundreds of thousands of people from poor countries outside the European Union will be free to find jobs in Britain as a result of restrictions on Romanians and Bulgarians being lifted on New Year's Day. Romania and Bulgaria are offering passports to people in non-EU countries including Moldova and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Historic ties also mean that some Serbs, Ukrainians and Turks are eligible to claim passports that would allow them to work anywhere in the EU. (telegraph.co.uk, UK, 31/12). "Macedonians are to invade the Great Britain; London in panic", reads a title of an article published by the online news edition Skai from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia commenting on the lifting of labour restrictions for Bulgarians and Romanians. "Bulgarian citizenship is very popular in Macedonia. When I was minister [without portfolio in charge of the Bulgarians living abroad], Bulgaria used to issue around 500 passports a day. All we had to do was to prove the Bulgarian origin," Bozhidar Dimitrov said (focus-fen.net, BG, 2/1).

- telegraph.co.uk, UK, 31/12, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10545457/Non-EU-citizens-will-be-able-to-work-in-Britain-after-Bulgarian-restrictions-lifted.html>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 2/1, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n322695>

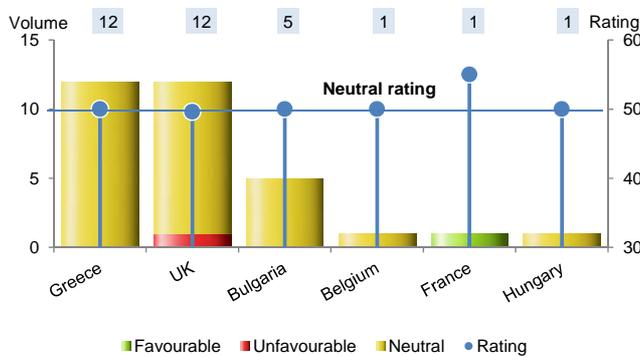
## Charts

**ELARG: Leading Daily Issues**  
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**ELARG: Leading Daily Countries**  
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**ELARG: Highlights**  
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Volume	32 items
Rating	50.0
Favourable %	3.1%
Unfavourable %	3.1%
Neutral %	93.8%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	18
Ali Babacan (Finance Minister, Turkey)	3
David Cameron (Prime Minister, UK)	2
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	1
Edi Rama (Prime Minister, Albania)	1
Ivica Dačić Prime Minister, Serbia)	1

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