



Key Quotes

Ivica Dačić: *"According to the European Commission, Serbia will be ready for the EU in five years"* (Dnevnik.bg, BG, 6/1)
http://www.dnevnik.bg/evropa/razshiriavane/2014/01/06/2214465_spered_briksel_do_pet_qodini_surbii_a_shte_e_gotova_z/?ref=rss

Summary

Turkey, a view from China

The Chinese news agency Xinhua reported that the New Year could be tough for EU-Turkey relations. Since December 17 the EU-Turkey relationship has started to wobble once again. The Turkish government has been embroiled in a major corruption scandal and the Ankara government removed hundreds of senior police officials as well as leading prosecutors who are involved in the graft investigation. The move sparked criticism from the EU, which said the government seems not to respect divisions of power as it interferes with the judiciary. European Commissioner for Enlargement Štefan Füle said, *"I urge Turkey... to take all the necessary measures to ensure that allegations of wrongdoing are addressed without discrimination or preference in a transparent and impartial manner."* In addition Elmar Brok, chairperson of the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee warned that people in Europe were fast losing their confidence in Turkish politicians' will to really establish a deeply democratic country. Selçuk Gültaþlý the bureau chief of Turkey's daily Zaman told Xinhua that in 2014 EU-Turkey relations and especially the integration talks will be put on ice. *"France only lifted its veto on the opening of one chapter out of five and conveyed to Turkey that nothing more should be expected before the European Council elections in May, which indicates that 2014 will be a stagnant year in terms of negotiating chapters,"* Mr Gültaþlý said (neurope.eu, BE, 6/1).

· neurope.eu, BE, 6/1, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/xinhua-2014-could-be-tough-eu-turkey-relations>

The EU and social tourism

The weekly supplement of Dnevnik quoted the title of an article in a British paper in which David Cameron warned that if he could not strike a deal with other EU countries now he would seek to secure the change in his membership renegotiations. The Slovenian paper went on to point out that such phrases reflect the increasingly nationalist and xenophobic discussions triggered by the withdrawal of limitations regarding access to the labour market for Romanian and Bulgarian citizens. It stated that the UK may become a serious obstacle in the EU enlargement process due to its fear of the flood of immigrants from poorer EU members in search of a better life. The EC recently rejected the motion which could limit the free flow of people on economic grounds, stating that there was no concrete evidence on the widespread social tourism and its alleged detrimental consequences (Dnevnik, SI, 4/1).

· Dnevnik, SI, 4/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140104/mi/item_182327149.pdf

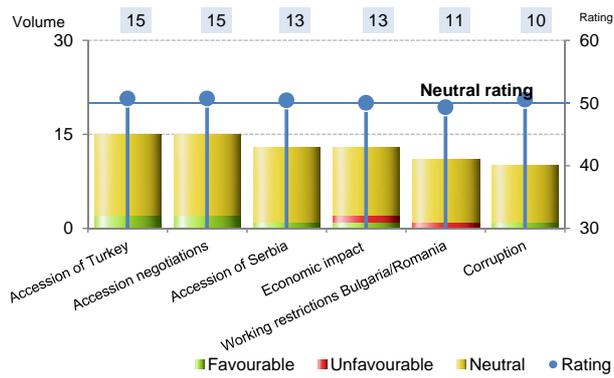
To-do list for Serbia

In an interview with Veèernji list (HR, 4/1), Kristijan Turkalj, former member of the Croatian negotiating team with the EU and consultant to the Serbian government on EU matters, estimated that Serbia will face similar challenges to Croatia when it comes to EU negotiation, i.e. a series of questions regarding the independence and efficiency of the judiciary system, fight against corruption and protection of human rights. *"The negotiations with Montenegro have already become problematic when it comes to chapters 23 and 24 – they are now to be opened first and closed last, and new mechanisms for monitoring progress in these two chapters has been introduced, along with biannual reporting on progress and a corrective mechanism and suspension of negotiations in other chapters in the event of delays in the progress in these two chapters"*, he asserted.

· Veèernji list, HR, 4/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140104/mi/item_182326958.pdf

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Unfavourable %	2.5%
Neutral %	87.5%

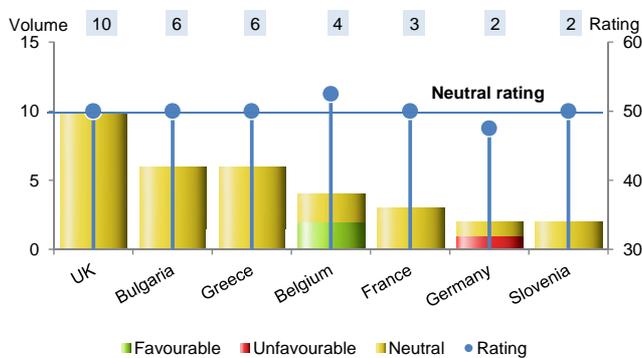
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ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources
by volume, favourability & rating

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
David Cameron (Prime Minister, UK)	10
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	7
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	2
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	2
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	2

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