



Key Quotes

EU Greek presidency for the next 6 months has not been received well in Skopje. Political domestic opinions are negative, because no hope is seen for progress in the aspect of European integration. Arlinda Mehmeti, a non-government activist stresses that there are no positive expectations, because Athens doesn't want the solution of the name dispute and wants the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to have domestic problems. ***"They are not interested on solving the name dispute. It's clear that their only objective is to drag on the problems. In contrast to the Greek objective, Macedonians do not give up on their name and identity. This is why there's no likelihood of a solution"***, she said (Balkaneu.com, GR, 9/1).

<http://www.balkaneu.com/eu-greek-presidency-skopies-expectations/>

Summary

European Commission has expressed its concern about the state of affairs of the candidate country Turkey

Commission spokesman Olivier Bailly expressed on Wednesday the Commission's concern over the latest developments in Turkey concerning the transfer of police and judicial officials. Bailly said that the developments could weaken the anti-corruption investigations currently underway in the country and the ability of the Police and justice to proceed with the investigations independently (Haravgi, CY, 9/1). Bailly also urged 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, saying that any action which undermines the effectiveness of investigations into these allegations should be avoided (Trud-Daily-Bulgaria, BG, 9/1). Mr Bailly reiterated the statement that Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, Štefan Füle had made, calling on Turkey to respect EU accession criteria and to take all necessary measures to ensure the handling of this issue is undertaken without discrimination and in an unbiased manner (Naftemporiki, EL, 9/1). The turmoil has rocked Erdoğan's government to its very core just weeks before crucial local elections in March and has sent Turkish financial markets tumbling. In the latest development, 16 police chiefs in several major cities including Ankara, Izmir, Antalya and Diyarbakir as well as the deputy head of national security, were fired Wednesday under a decree signed by Interior Minister Efkani Ala (eubusiness.com, UK, 9/1).

- Haravgi, CY, 9/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140109/mi/item_182710751.pdf
- Trud-Daily-Bulgaria, BG, 9/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140109/mi/item_182693802.pdf
- Naftemporiki, EL, 9/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140109/mi/item_182713972.pdf
- eubusiness.com, UK, 9/1, <http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/turkey-politics.sqk/>

Possible elections in Serbia

In Serbia the big question is whether early elections will be called. Most likely they will take place by the end of this month. The result looks set to change the balance of power in government. Aleksandar Vučić, the deputy prime minister and leader of the largest party in parliament, is likely to become prime minister. However, as many analysts have pointed out, those who have called early elections in recent years have all had nasty shocks. Mr Vučić's Serbian Progressive Party is almost certain to remain the biggest party but it might not do as well as its members calling for an election hope (economist.com, UK, 8/1).

- economist.com, UK, 8/1, <http://www.economist.com/blogs/easternapproaches/2014/01/balkans>

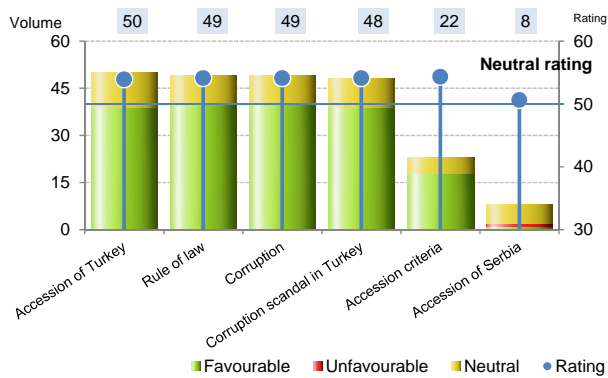
Meeting with opposition leader in former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

EU Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle met on Tuesday 7th with the leader of the main opposition party of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Zoran Zaev, in order to discuss the country's progress towards EU integration. Commissioner Füle underlined the need to improve the political discourse in the country and the importance of a national consensus on the common goal of EU integration. As he stated: ***"As the 1 March political agreement is being implemented, the Commission will stand ready to support the reform process through the High Level Accession Dialogue provided the authorities remain committed to the reforms implementation and to continued improvement in good neighbourly relations."*** The two leaders also talked about the most urgent reforms in the country, in particular in the area of rule of law and freedom of media, as well as about the work of the working groups on electoral legislation and stressed the importance of fair conditions for political competition (neurope.eu, BE, 8/1).

- neurope.eu, BE, 8/1, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/commissioner-f%C3%BCle-discusses-reforms-former-yugoslav-republic-macedonia>

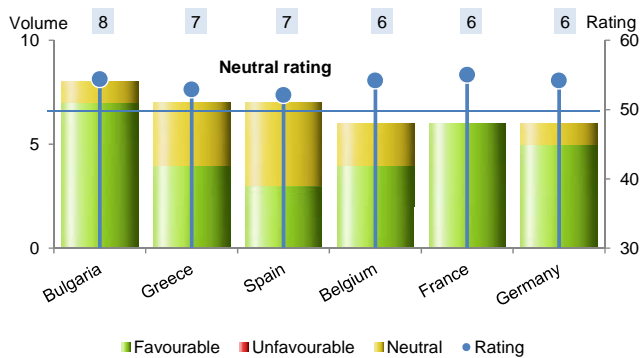
Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
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ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	61 items
Rating	53.5
Favourable %	68.9%
Unfavourable %	1.6%
Neutral %	29.5%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	46
Olivier Bailly (Growth and Jobs Spokesperson, EC)	26
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	11
Peter Stano (Spokesperson Enlargement, EC)	2
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	2
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	2
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	2
Constantinos Ikonomides (Greek ambassador to Serbia)	2

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