



Key Quotes

French President, François Hollande is expected to arrive in Turkey on Monday where he will try to turn the page on the contentious bilateral relations and revive all economic exchanges, despite the regime's crisis that shook the country. Ankara is preparing to roll out the red carpet for the two day state visit, unprecedented for a French president since that of François Mitterrand in 1992 (Le Point, FR, 27/1).

<http://ct.moreover.com/ct?haid=b7bbb53df9e9a27c13908050303446f764f49af8a4763&co=f000000013352s-1358171144>

Summary

Serbia's internal problems

With the start of accession negotiations for Serbia, Pierre Rousselin in an opinion piece suggests that Serbia will not be an easy partner for the EU. The country is verging on bankruptcy and has done nothing to put things right before negotiating entry to the EU and has even gone as far as to break off relations with the IMF. It would seem that Europe did not want to make this a condition for the opening of talks no doubt because these necessary reforms would be unpopular and they might have weakened the position of the President, Tomislav Nikolić. Never mind that this former comrade of Slobodan Milosevic used YouTube to ask for a pardon for the massacre of Srebrenica (Figaro, FR, 23/1). On the home front the situation is less than ideal: "Vučić is no longer content to be second to Dačić," one Belgrade business insider says. "He wants to cash in on his high level of popularity now by calling a vote." Most now believe elections will be announced on January 29 and take place on March 16 but the chance of the Progressives winning an outright majority is by no means a certainty. If they don't, the setbacks to EU negotiations could be substantial (bne.eu, UK, 24/1).

- Figaro, FR, 23/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140123/mi/item_184441699.pdf
- bne.eu, UK, 24/1, http://www.bne.eu/story5689/Snap_poll_threat_overshadows_Serbias_EU_victory

In Brussels, Erdoğan rejects the charge of authoritarianism.

With the EU the Turkish Prime Minister had to explain at length the takeover of justice and policing. The discussions were "animated and lively" said Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament. Earlier, Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, and José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, had warned the head of the Turkish government against any threat to the rule of law and the principle of separation of powers. The heads of EU have not kept secret their concerns over Mr Erdoğan's attitudes and policies (Monde, FR, 23/1).

- Monde, FR, 23/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140123/mi/item_184395953.pdf

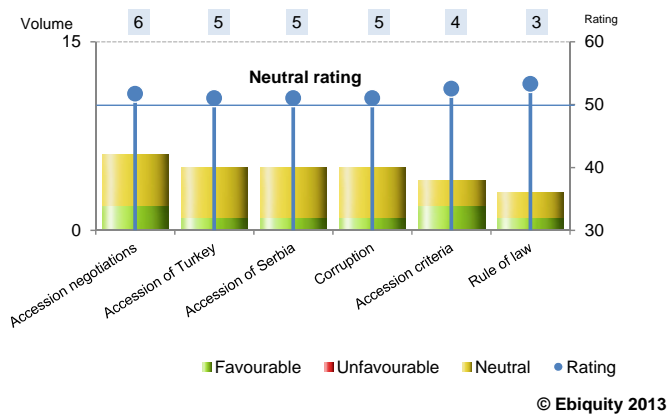
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the EU

The Greek foreign minister Evangelos Venizelos says the main obstacle to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia starting EU accession talks is not its name, but the fact that it does not respect European values (Jutarnji List, HR, 24/1). However, the Spanish Foreign Minister José García-Margallo conveyed the support of Spain for the Euro-Atlantic perspective of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Maec.es, ES, 24/1).

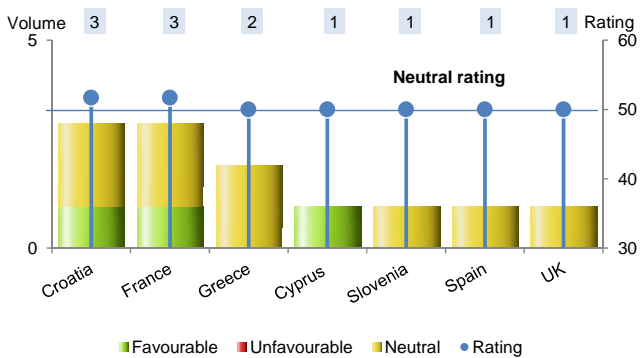
- Jutarnji List, HR, 24/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140124/mi/item_184634968.pdf
- Maec.es, ES, 24/1, http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/es/SalaDePrensa/ElMinisterioInforma/Paginas/Noticias/20140123_MINISTERIO2.aspx

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	12 items
Rating	50.8
Favourable %	16.7%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	83-3%

© Ebiquity 2014

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	5
José Manuel Barroso (President, EC)	3
Herman Van Rompuy (President, European Council)	2
Ivica Dačić Prime Minister, Serbia)	2
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	1
Martin Schultz, President, European Parliament)	1
Nicos Anastasiades (President, Cyprus)	1
Evangelos Venizelos (Foreign Minister, Greece)	1

© Ebiquity 2014

Disclaimer: The access to this press report is restricted to European Commission staff. It should not be forwarded or circulated.