



## Key Quotes

Serbia warned full EU membership will take at least 8 years. "Some Serbian politicians have great enthusiasm when it comes to the pace at which the country can advance along the EU path," continuing, however, realistically "To secure full membership, you will need eight years at least," Kukan [Eduard Kukan] told the Belgrade newspaper Vecernje Novosti (Dalje, HR, 31/1).

<http://dalje.com/en-world/serbia-warned-full-eu-membership-will-take-at-least-8-years/498007>

Indeed, "a more democratic and European Turkey" is to the best interest of Cyprus as well as the entire union. The way to go about it is for the EU to continue applying strict conditionality, as with all other candidates for accession. Euripides Evriviades, High commissioner of Cyprus, London (The Economist, UK, 1/2 [sic])

<http://www.economist.com/news/letters/21595385-climate-change-turkey-housing-hospices-asia-sex-and-public-life-renewable-energy-spain>

The Socialists in the European Parliament have recommended the foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton for the Nobel Peace Prize. They want to honour her achievements in the solution of the Kosovo conflict. "***This is not only a tribute to her contribution to the normalization of relations, but also extra motivation, a lasting peace between Serbia and Kosovo to achieve,***" said the leader of the Socialists, Hannes Swoboda (Die Welt, DE, 31/1).

<http://www.welt.de/politik/ausland/article124388595/Ashton-fuer-Friedensnobelpreis-vorgeschlagen.html>

## Summary

### Meeting of Italian and Turkish Presidents

Italian President Giorgio Napolitano has met the Turkish President Abdullah Gül. Napolitano said that Turkey should join the European Union for strategic and historical reasons. The president promised that Italy will strive during its six-month presidency of the European Union to implement the project of EU enlargement (Rai-Due, IT, 29/1). For Turkey, Italy is a fourth or fifth trading partner with trade of \$21.3 billion in 2011, and at least a thousand Italian companies operate there. Economic ties between the two countries, says Gül, "have even greater potential" adding "We have created 6 million jobs and debt and deficit are below the level required by Maastricht". President Napolitano replied saying "There are opportunities for further development. Turkey has not been affected by the global financial crisis" (Messaggero, IT, 30/1). Giorgio Napolitano went on to say "Mr. President, if the Mediterranean is what brings us together, Europe is the future that will unite us. And I say this with conviction beyond the rhetoric that has often characterized this topic." "The place of Turkey is in Europe – because of its history, culture and values" adding "the progress made over the years by the democratic model of Turkey should be a stimulus to move forward in this direction without any reservations or second thoughts" (Ansamèd, IT, 30/1).

- Rai-Due, IT, 29/1, [link not available]
- Messaggero, IT, 30/1, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140130/mi/item\\_185386431.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140130/mi/item_185386431.pdf)
- Ansamed, IT, 30/1, [http://ansamed.ansa.it/ansamed/it/notizie/rubriche/politica/2014/01/30/Napolitano-Gul-posto-Turchia-Europa\\_9986173.html](http://ansamed.ansa.it/ansamed/it/notizie/rubriche/politica/2014/01/30/Napolitano-Gul-posto-Turchia-Europa_9986173.html)

### New elections in Serbia

Serbian President Tomislav Nikolić has dissolved parliament and called for early parliamentary elections (24ur.com, SI, 29/1). However it is said that the current Prime Minister Ivica Dačić, has reached an agreement with the "fatal enemy" Kosovo, and started the process of normalization of relations. For this he has got the applause of Brussels and Serbia, started the long promised accession negotiations with the EU, but he also got the label of national traitor, and thus appears as not very desirable coalition partner (Dnevnik, SI, 30/1).

- 24ur.com, SI, 29/1, <http://www.24ur.com/novice/svet/srbski-predsednik-razpustil-parlament-in-zapisal-volitve.html>
- Dnevnik, SI, 30/1, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140130/mi/item\\_185383644.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140130/mi/item_185383644.pdf)

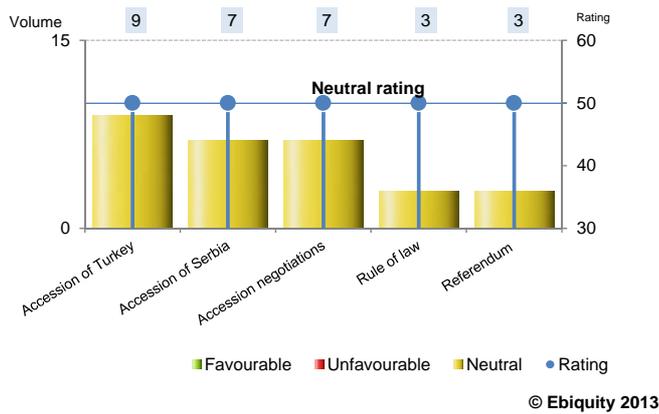
### Amazing U-turn by Serbia's First Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić

Aleksandar Vučić who has led the EU talks is a former nationalist who has turned himself into a modern, moderate politician. This is a U-turn for the most powerful politician in the country, but it remains to be seen whether his desire to be in the EU is shared by the people of Serbia, only 36% of whom think joining the EU would be a good thing (Tribune, FR, 30/1).

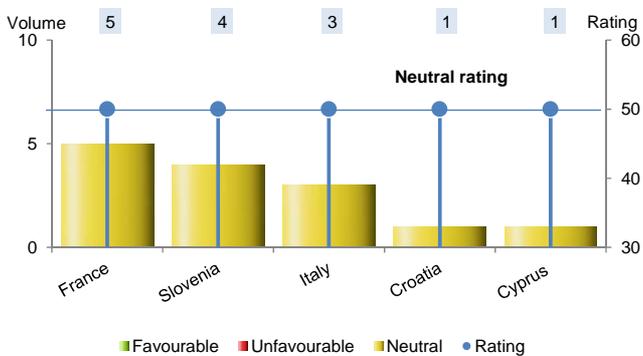
- Tribune, FR, 30/1, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140130/mi/item\\_185358577.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140130/mi/item_185358577.pdf)

## Charts

**ELARG: Leading Daily Issues**  
by volume, favourability & rating



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



**ELARG: Highlights**  
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	14 items
Rating	50.0
Favourable %	0%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	100%

© Ebiquity 2014

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
François Hollande (President, France)	4
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	4
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	4
Aleksandar Vučić (First Deputy Prime Minister, Serbia)	4
Abdullah Gül (President, Turkey)	3
Giorgio Napolitano (President, Italy)	3

© Ebiquity 2014

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