



Key Quotes

The Prime Ministers of Serbia and Kosovo say the process of normalizing relations between Belgrade and Pristina has benefitted both sides. Serbia's Ivica Dačić and Kosovo's Hashim Thaçi also expressed gratitude on February 2 at the Munich Security Conference to EU foreign-policy chief Catherine Ashton for leading the peace-making negotiations ([rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org), CZ, 2/2).

<http://www.rferl.org/content/kosovo-serbia-normalization-beneficial/25250514.html>

Hungary's Prime Minister advocated for further enlargement of the European Union, saying that its most recent Member States make the 28-country bloc stronger. *"In the sophisticated EU language, they say there's expansion inertia,"* Viktor Orban said, noting that there is political tension because of the EU's accession and migration policies, but stressing that EU politicians need to overcome this *"inertia"*. Mr. Orban said at a Hungarian central bank conference, that any delay in further EU expansion risks wasting strength, and for this reason the EU should foster the accession of Balkan countries (uk.adfn.com, UK, 31/1).

<http://uk.adfn.com/news/DJN/2014/article/60868959>

Summary

Name dispute

The Greek politician Panos Kammenos has said he is opposed to any use of the term *"Macedonia"* and opposed the acceptance of Greece's geographical designation for the name for the neighbouring country. The Foreign Minister, Evangelos Venizelos reiterated the official position that Greece is ready to accept a composite name with a geographical qualifier of the term *"Macedonia"* that clearly differentiates it from Greek Macedonia and of course, he said, we want such a name to be *'erga omnes'*, i.e. a name for internal, international, bilateral and multilateral use. With regard to the attitude of Skopje, he said that it had *"not accepted this position because the other side has no intention sincere participation in the dialogue"* (Phileleftheros, EL, 30/1).

- Phileleftheros, EL, 30/1, <http://www.philenews.com/el-gr/eidiseis-ellada/45/182909/venizelos-den-thesame-veto-sto-voukourestito-2008-gia-tin-pqdm>

Italo-Turkish cooperation

"Between Italy and Turkey we have no unsolved political problems instead there is much to develop in the field of economy, trade, investment - 20 billion of trade and 4.5 billion of investment are low" said Turkish President Abdullah Gül. According to Italian Foreign Minister, Emma Bonino, collaboration should not be limited to commercial trade and Bonino also stressed that the government has simplified procedures for entrepreneurs, students, researchers and others, but one complicating factor is that there are also Schengen rules and problems to overcome (Sole-24-Ore, IT, 31/1).

- Sole-24-Ore, IT, 31/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140131/mi/item_185546154.pdf

Turkey and Europe

The Turkish Prime Minister, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's resemblance to Putin is very real. However it is in interests of Turkey, and of Europe itself, to reopen the way to EU membership. But it is evident that an authoritarian regime can make that road impassable (Stampa, IT, 31/1).

- Stampa, IT, 31/1, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140131/mi/item_185528225.pdf

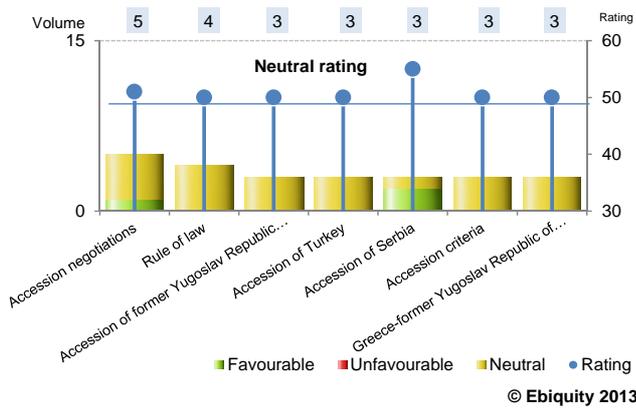
Russia could support the independence of Scotland

"What message do you have for David Cameron in this very important year for the UK?" a British journalist asked the Kremlin leader. *"The referendum is an internal problem for the UK but I think a group of people has the right to self-determination and in contemporary Europe, the idea of diluting national sovereignty within the European Community is possible. However, keeping in a strong unitary state has its own advantages that should not be forgotten. But, again, the choice belongs to the nation in a specific historical context"* said Vladimir Putin, quoted by Voice of Russia radio station. When Putin was asked whether Scotland will be invited to the Customs Union Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus, he said it is *"quite possible"*. It could be said that Russian President extended a hand to help Scots who may face revocation of their membership of the European Union for secession, while being threatened by Britain's central bank governor, Michael Carney, with devastating economic consequences for obtaining independence (NapocaNews, RO, 31/1).

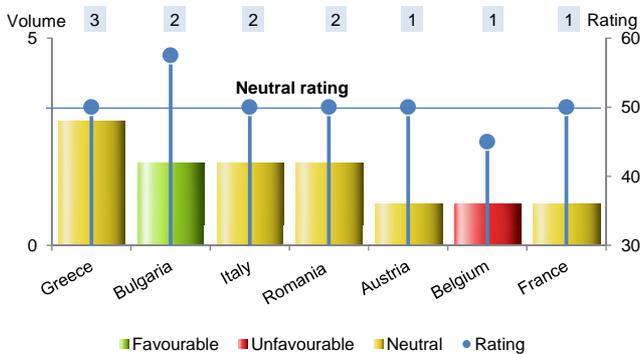
- NapocaNews, RO, 31/1, <http://www.napocanews.ro/2014/01/rusia-ar-putea-sustine-independenta-scotiei-pe-cand-tinutul-secuiesc.html>

Charts

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Volume	12 items
Rating	50.8
Favourable %	16.7%
Unfavourable %	8.3%
Neutral %	75%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	4
Evangelos Venizelos (Foreign Minister, Greece)	3
Vladimir Putin (President, Russia)	3
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	1
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	1
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	1
Ivica Dačić Prime Minister, Serbia)	1

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