



## Key Quotes

Italian Embassy in Kosovo involved in an organized crime scandal. Speaking to Reuters, Italian ambassador Andreas Ferrarese declined to confirm or deny media reports that local embassy staff were among those arrested. **"I cannot enter into details because there is a problem of privacy and also a problem to protect the investigation,"** he said, speaking in English. He said the embassy was working to clarify the situation and was cooperating with the EU police and justice mission EULEX, in which it had full confidence ([agerpres.ro](http://www.agerpres.ro), RO, 6/2).

<http://www.agerpres.ro/media/index.php/international/item/254975-Ambasada-Italiei-in-Kosovo-implicata-in-trun-scandal-legat-de-crima-organizata.html>

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/02/05/uk-kosovo-italy-arrest-idUKBREA141SN20140205>

President of Romania Traian Băsescu said: **"We want the Balkans, Turkey, and Black Sea riparian countries to join the EU; we want us to have the same values and interests in the region"** ([nineoclock.ro](http://www.nineoclock.ro), RO, 5/2).

<http://www.nineoclock.ro/basescu-romania-highly-interested-in-turkey-joining-eu/>

## Summary

### Turkish visit to Germany

During his visit to Berlin, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Foreign Minister Steinmeier. Mr Erdoğan asked Ms Merkel to increase support for Turkey's slow-moving accession negotiations with the EU. He added that Turkey would continue its reform policy and that the EU needed Turkey (O1, AT, 5/2). Merkel did not give Erdoğan her support, saying that *"It is no secret that I am quite skeptical of complete EU membership for Turkey"*. She does however support the idea of starting on chapters 23 and 24 of membership negotiations which stipulate justice, fundamental rights, freedom and safety (Telegraaf, NE, 5/2). Yet the end of accession talks is not an option, as it would be seen as an affront by Ankara. Furthermore, the talks are ideal for continuously influencing Turkey (Welt, DE, 5/2).

- O1, AT, 5/2, [link not available]
- Telegraaf, NE, 5/2, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140205/mi/item\\_186123718.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140205/mi/item_186123718.pdf)
- Welt, DE, 5/2, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140205/mi/item\\_186135021.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140205/mi/item_186135021.pdf)

### Fundamental rights in Turkey

Turkish MPs will debate Wednesday new Internet legislation portrayed by the government as shielding the young from dangerous material but which critics say is a further erosion of personal freedom in the aspiring EU member. The proposals follow reforms that detractors say hurt the independence of the judiciary and come as Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan tries to contain a deeply damaging corruption probe implicating his inner circle. Turks' ability to go online is already far from free, activists say, with thousands of websites blocked in recent years. It makes a comparatively huge number of requests to block online content, Google data shows. YouTube was unavailable for two years until 2010 because of material deemed insulting to modern Turkey's still-revered founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, while fellow video-sharing website Vimeo became off-limits only last month ([uk.news.yahoo.com](http://uk.news.yahoo.com), UK, 5/2).

- [uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 5/2, http://uk.news.yahoo.com/39-orwellian-39-internet-curbs-turkish-parliament-041609104.html#2S1bLJ](http://uk.news.yahoo.com/39-orwellian-39-internet-curbs-turkish-parliament-041609104.html#2S1bLJ)

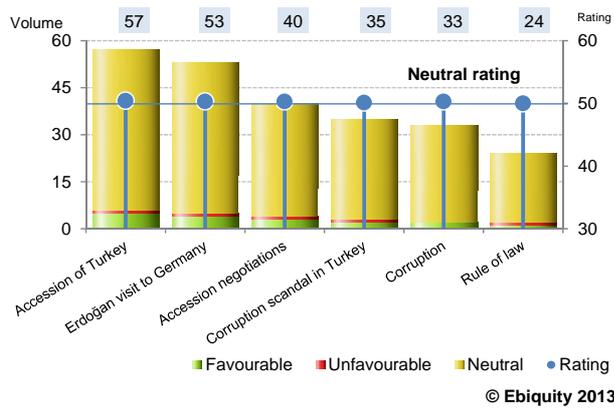
### Hungarian minority in Serbia

The early election to take place in Serbia on March 16 and the April 6 Hungarian general election were topics on the agenda of a meeting between Prime Minister Viktor Orban and Istvan Pasztor, leader of the Vojvodina Hungarian Alliance (VMSZ), in Budapest on Tuesday. Orban and Pasztor reviewed the issue of further expanding opportunities for Hungarian cultural autonomy in Vojvodina. The two politicians agreed that there was no alternative to the strategic agreement signed between the Hungarian government and the VMSZ in 2010. Regarding classic minority issues such as education, culture and the use of language, they agreed the already defined and planned action programmes *"are key to the success of national self-realisation"*. Taking this into consideration, the VMSZ has drafted an election programme which includes health-care provision and interest representation to ensure that Serbia's EU accession has a *"Hungarian emphasis"* ([politics.hu](http://politics.hu), HU, 4/2).

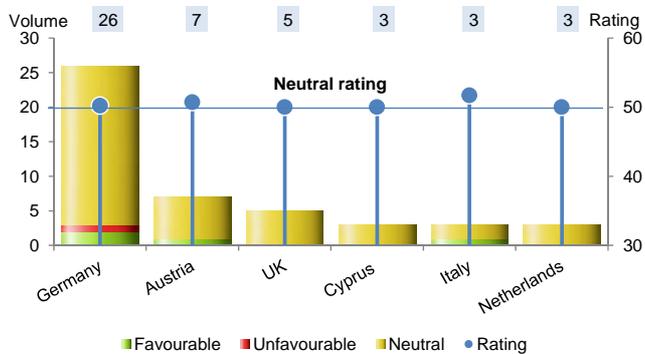
- [politics.hu, HU, 4/2, http://www.politics.hu/20140204/orban-discusses-election-with-hungarian-minority-leader-in-serbia/](http://www.politics.hu/20140204/orban-discusses-election-with-hungarian-minority-leader-in-serbia/)

## Charts

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

Volume	59 items
Rating	50.3
Favourable %	8.5%
Unfavourable %	1.7%
Neutral %	89.8%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	54
Angela Merkel (Chancellor, Germany)	53
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	5
José Manuel Barroso (President, EC)	5
Frank-Walter Steinmeier (Foreign Minister, Germany)	3

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