



Key Quotes

The European Commission last night backtracked on remarks by its President comparing an independent Scotland to Kosovo. José Manuel Durao Barroso this weekend, citing Spanish hostility to the former Serbian province, said it would be **"extremely difficult if not impossible"** for Scotland to join the EU. However, the Commission's most senior spokeswoman yesterday stressed President Barroso did not wish to imply that Kosovo was a **"perfect analogy"** for Scotland. European Commission spokeswoman Pia Ahrenkilde yesterday said Mr Barroso had only mentioned Kosovo **"to illustrate the difficulty and uncertainties that could emerge"** in both Scotland and Spain's Catalonia (heraldscotland.com, UK, 18/2).

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/referendum-news/barroso-comments-just-an-example.23467457>

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/02/16/uk-britain-scotland-barroso-idUKBREA1F06W20140216>

Kosovo on Monday celebrated six years of independence marked by a historic improvement of ties with former foe Serbia, which was coaxed along by an EU-brokered deal last year. Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi told a special parliamentary session that **"our vision of an independent Kosovo is one of a democratic country... ready to find its place within the family of free nations"** (eubusiness.com, UK, 17/2).

<http://www.eubusiness.com/news-eu/kosovo-independence.tw2/>

Summary

Despite EU concerns the Turkish government agrees reform of the justice system

Despite criticism and warnings by the European Commission, the Turkish government has agreed a reform that gives the Minister of Justice major control over the legislative power in the country. He now has the authority to initiate disciplinary action against judges and prosecutors (Standard, AT, 17/2). Štefan Füle, EU commissioner for enlargement, has sent three letters to Ankara outlining his concerns about earlier drafts of the measure, while the US has also expressed uneasiness, calling last month for a Turkey *"where no one is above the law and where allegations against public figures are investigated impartially"*. Critics of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister, say that by putting judges and prosecutors further under the authority of the ministry of justice, the new law is intended to protect his administration and confidants from legal proceedings, notably high-profile corruption probes into government-connected figures (Ft.com, UK, 16/2).

- Standard, AT, 17/2, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140217/mi/item_187739229.pdf
- Ft.com, UK, 16/2, http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/112d474c-96f3-11e3-809f-00144feab7de,Authorised=false.html?i_location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ft.com%2Fcms%2Fs%2F0%2F112d474c-96f3-11e3-809f-00144feab7de.html%3Fsiteedition%3Dintl&siteedition=intl&i_referer=#axzz2tejCRLt

Bosnia and Herzegovina need a new idea

The Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle is visiting Sarajevo and has published an open letter to the Bosnian people in which he stated *"the cry from the streets of Tuzla, Sarajevo and other towns across the country had been heard"* and emphasized that other EU officials were also aware of the legitimacy of their demands (Jutarnji-list, HR, 17/2). Protests across Bosnia and Herzegovina showed that the European Union in recent years misguided policies towards the country and now the time has come to change that, said the former High Representative of the international community Paddy Ashdown (business.hr, HR, 14/2). Current EP rapporteur for BiH Doris Pack's view, is that only a new international conference with all the interested parties involved can solve the current Bosnian issue, Serbia, Bosnia and Croatia cannot do it alone (Jutarnji-list, HR, 15/2).

- Jutarnji-list, HR, 17/2, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140217/mi/item_187727605.pdf
- business.hr, HR, 14/2, <http://www.business.hr/doqadjaji/ashdown-vrijeme-je-da-se-promijeni-odnos-eu-prema-bih>
- Jutarnji-list, HR, 15/2, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140215/mi/item_187728238.pdf

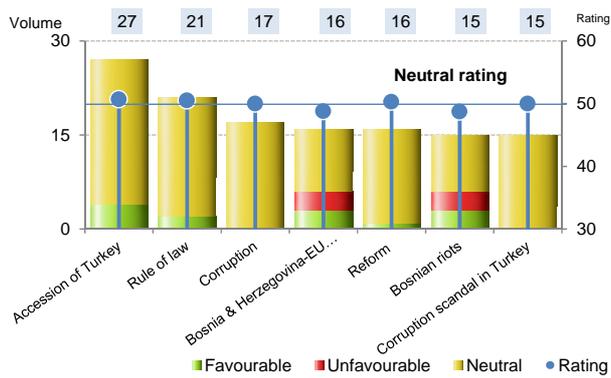
Demonstrations in Montenegro

While peaceful protests continue in Bosnia and Herzegovina, only a few demonstrators gathered in Croatia as a response to a call through the social networks on Saturday. In Podgorica in Montenegro, heated protesters skirmished with police during anti-government protests on Saturday (Veèer, SI, 17/2). Nine policemen were injured when rocks were thrown from a crowd of several hundred people demanding the resignation of the government, a police spokeswoman said. *"We want to live, we want to work!"* protesters angry about high unemployment and the slow pace of economic reform chanted in front of the government headquarters before being dispersed with tear gas. *"We want them to resign!"* The demonstrators had no political backing but were responding to a call on a Facebook profile entitled *"Revolution in Montenegro - everyone on the streets"*. The profile disappeared during the course of the day (uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 15/2).

- Veèer, SI, 17/2, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140217/mi/item_187726933.pdf
- [uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 15/2, http://uk.news.yahoo.com/nine-policemen-injured-anti-government-protests-montenegro-165721440--business.html#qymADUC](http://uk.news.yahoo.com/nine-policemen-injured-anti-government-protests-montenegro-165721440--business.html#qymADUC)

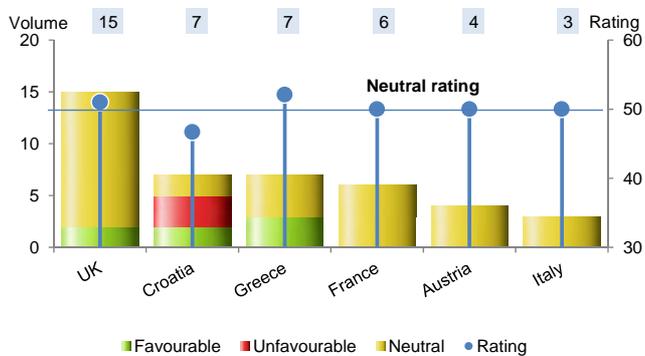
Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
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ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
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Volume	55 items
Rating	50.5
Favourable %	21.8%
Unfavourable %	5.5%
Neutral %	72.7%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	19
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	7
José Manuel Barroso (President, EC)	7
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	6
Alex Salmond (First Minister, Scotland)	5
Paddy Ashdown (Former High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina)	5
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	4
Nicos Anastasiades (President, Cyprus)	4

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