



## Key Quotes

The European Union told Bosnia's fractious leaders on Tuesday to heed protesters' demands for more accountability and transparency after the worst bout of civil unrest since the Balkan country's 1992-95 war. **"I call on politicians ... not to ignore the voices of the citizens,"** EU Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle said after meeting Bosnian leaders and a delegation of the protesters. **"It is clear that the political system in Bosnia must become more responsive to the citizens' agenda - conditions for more jobs, more efficient justice and fair opportunities in life"** (Yahoo!, UK, 18/2).

<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/listen-people-eu-tells-bosnia-leaders-unrest-155153905.html>

## Summary

### Economic boost for Kosovo

Shortly after Kosovo declared independence from Serbia six years ago, neighbouring Albania said it would bequeath its Adriatic port of Shengjin to its landlocked ethnic kin. Albania's gesture meant much to majority-Albanian Kosovo as it sought to forge a path independent of Serbia and the Western aid and remittances that had propped it up since the 1998-99 war. Little came of it and the trickle of Kosovo-bound goods through the shallow wharf has failed to match the lofty talk. Now a new drive is under way, spurred by a change of government in Albania and the recession in Europe, which has seen a damaging fall in the amount of money sent home by Albanian migrant workers - a mainstay of both economies. At stake is Kosovo's economic viability and possibly its stability. In January, the two governments met in Prizren, an old trading town in Kosovo closely associated with ethnic solidarity as Albanian leaders once pledged there, in late Ottoman times, to protect Albanian lands from covetous Balkan neighbours (uk.reuters.com, UK, 17/2).

- uk.reuters.com, UK, 17/2, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/02/17/kosovo-albania-integration-idUKL6N0LM26120140217>

### Support for Serbia

Austrian Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz has stated that his country will support the reforms that Serbia needs to implement in striving for membership of the EU. *"We wish Serbia to join the EU as soon as possible, and the perspective of that membership has always offered the boost to the required reforms in candidate countries"* Kurz told Vecernje Novosti. The head of Austrian diplomacy emphasized that Austria has always been supportive of Serbia on its course toward the EU, and promises to keep on with that support (balkans.com, UK, 17/2). Evangelos Venizelos, the Greek deputy PM, whose country is presiding the EU, said he was coming to Belgrade to convey a message of support and encouragement for Serbia's further EU prospects and the reform process in the country. *"In my capacity as Greek deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, I am coming to confirm anew the excellent ties of friendship and cooperation between Serbia and Greece, which have been present for years"* said Venizelos (balkans.com, UK, 18/2).

- balkans.com, UK, 17/2, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=189043>
- balkans.com, UK, 18/2, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=189130>

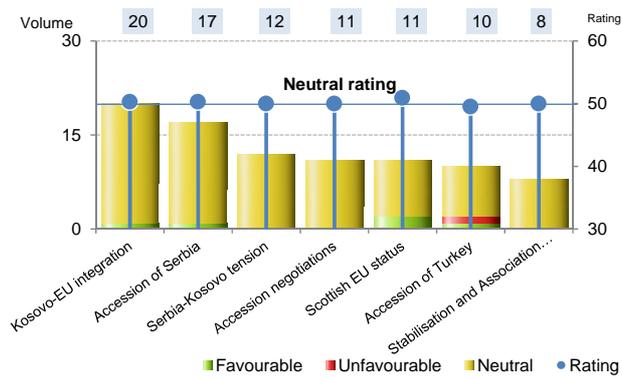
### Reform in Turkey

Turkey's Deputy Prime Minister, Ali Babacan, has said his country has been failing to implement the reforms necessary for EU membership and it is now, as negotiations appear to be stalling, reaping what it has sown. *"During the last 11 years we have dragged our feet on some issues the EU wanted us to regulate or said it would be good if we did. On those issues we did not take bold steps and they have come back to bite us,"* Babacan said on February 17 during an interview on private broadcaster NTV. *"I think that we should be bold when it comes to EU reforms. And the opposition should be bold, too"* he said (neurope.eu, BE, 17/2).

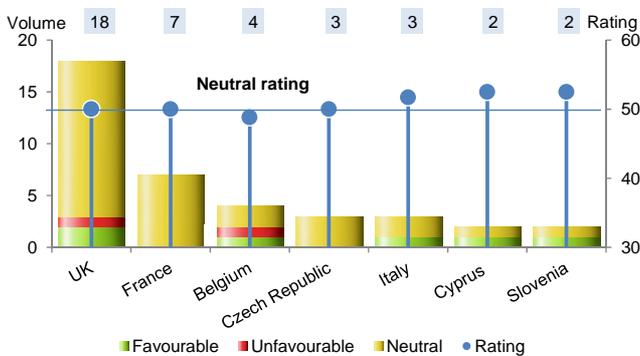
neurope.eu, BE, 17/2, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/turkey-dragging-its-feet-eu>

## Charts

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

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Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	11
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	7
Alex Salmond (First Minister, Scotland)	7
David Cameron (Prime Minister, UK)	4
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	3
Abdullah Gül (President, Turkey)	3
Nicola Sturgeon (Deputy First Minister, Scotland)	3

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