



Key Quotes

Financial Times: "*Serbia deserves its EU dream*". FT writes that "*EU leaders must remind themselves, and their electorates, that eastern enlargement was and remains a strategic triumph. It brought closer the day when Europe will truly be whole and free. But the triumph will not be complete until Serbia and its neighbours are inside the club*" (Financial Times, UK, 10/3).

http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140310/mi/item_190468706.pdf

Summary

Women in the Turkish workplace

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Union and the Republic of Turkey have agreed to create a Women in Business Programme – a comprehensive package of financial and technical support for entrepreneurship among women across Turkey. Despite its rapid economic growth, Turkey ranks just 120th out of 135 countries in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2013. Only 29 per cent of women in Turkey are active in the labour market, according to World Bank statistics. This emphasises the importance of involving female entrepreneurs in a wider range of business programmes in Turkey (balkans.com, UK, 10/3).

- balkans.com, UK, 10/3, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=190225>

Ban of Facebook and YouTube ruled out

Turkey's president on Friday ruled out any ban on Facebook and YouTube after Prime Minister Tayyip Erdoğan said the sites could be shut to stop his foes anonymously posting audio recordings purportedly exposing corruption in his inner circle (uk.reuters.com, UK, 7/3). President Abdullah Gül, a co-founder of Erdoğan's ruling Islamist-rooted AK Party, said freedom of expression was an important value buttressed by the government's own reforms. "*Closure (of the social media sites) is out of the question*" Gül said when asked about Erdoğan's threat, adding that under a recent law, authorities could block access to material on the sites if a person's privacy were violated (uk.finance.yahoo.com, UK, 7/3). European Commissioner Neelie Kroes called a possible ban of Facebook and YouTube in Turkey disturbing. According to the Vice-President of the European Commission in Brussels, closing social media is a first step towards the dismantling of democracy (dvhnl.nl, NL, 7/3).

- uk.reuters.com, UK, 7/3, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/03/07/uk-turkey-erdozan-idUKBREA2609E20140307>
- uk.finance.yahoo.com, UK, 7/3, <http://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/erdozan-says-turkey-could-ban-065705802.html>
- dvhn.nl, NL, 7/3, <http://www.dvhn.nl/nieuws/wereld/article11000663.ece/Zorqen-EU-over-mogelijk-Turks-verbod-Facebook>

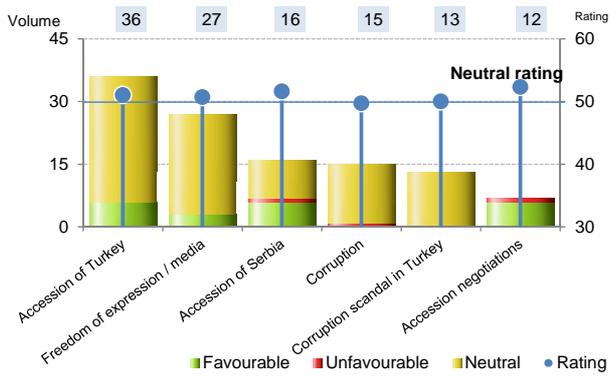
Elections in Serbia

Aleksandar Vučić is expected to lead his conservative Progressive party to victory in Serbia's parliamentary elections on Sunday and to form a government whose priorities will be economic reform and advancement towards EU membership. "*I would say it has been a largely content-free campaign, but the Progressive party has certainly been campaigning against corruption*," says Ana Trbović, a Belgrade economics professor. Tackling corruption and organised crime, freeing the judicial system from political pressure and guaranteeing media freedom, are three objectives on which Serbia must reach if it is to meet its goal of fulfilling all EU membership conditions by 2018 and gaining formal entry by 2020. EU governments are also insisting Serbia must achieve a comprehensive settlement of its dispute with Kosovo, the Albanian-majority province that seceded from Serbia in 2008, a decade after the 1998-99 war that triggered NATO attacks on Serbia (ft.com, UK, 10/3). On Friday, Romania's Prime Minister Victor Ponta extended an invitation to his Bulgarian and Serbian counterparts to create a group of institutional cooperation among the three counties patterned on the Visegrad Group and congratulated Serbia's Government for having begun accession negotiations with the European Union and reiterated Romania and Bulgaria's support.

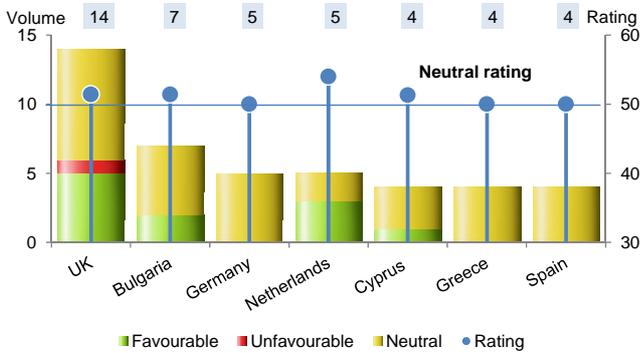
- ft.com, UK, 10/3, <http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/c693d932-a604-11e3-9818-00144feab7de.html#axzz2vX8E4qmi>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	53 items
Rating	51.1
Favourable %	22.6%
Unfavourable %	1.9%
Neutral %	75.5%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	28
Abdullah Gül (President of Turkey)	14
Ivica Dačić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	10
Plamen Oresharski (Prime Minister, Bulgaria)	9
Victor Ponta (Prime Minister Romania)	9
Neelie Kroes (Digital Agenda Commissioner, EC)	5

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