



Key Quotes

Turkey has expressed its disappointment over a resolution adopted by the European Parliament. ***“We saw with disappointment that the developments during the Gezi Park events and afterwards, as well as the work carried out to ensure the separation of powers and the independence of the judiciary, have not been fully understood by the EU institutions and authorities,”*** the Turkish Foreign Ministry said in a written statement released late March 12 (Focus-news, BG, 13/3)

<http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/03/13/329885/ankara-disappointed-over-european-parliament-resolutio.html>

Summary

Collapse of coup trial unnerves Turks as Erdoğan switches tack (uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 12/3)

Prime Minister Tayyip Erdoğan welcomed the jailing of army officers, academics and journalists on coup plot charges last year as a key moment in his drive to tame Turkey's army. Now as the case unravels, his camp suggests some should never have been put behind bars. The slow collapse of the "Ergenekon" case has exposed the judiciary - central to efforts to anchor a democracy in Turkey - as a system in disarray, caught in a new power struggle between Erdoğan and an Islamist cleric. That raises questions for foreign investors and the EU, which Ankara seeks to join. Turks have reacted with a mixture of relief, horror and disbelief over the past week as courts ordered the release of dozens of men jailed over a number of years for plotting a military coup against Erdoğan's Islamist-rooted government. Surveying the disarray in the courts, erratic and seemingly arbitrary convictions, new curbs on the Internet, the campaign against the Gülenists and deepening political polarisation, some see a tragedy of Greek proportions unfolding, with Erdoğan as the flawed hero (uk.reuters.com, UK, 12/3). In Strasbourg the rapporteur for Turkey Ria Oomen-Ruijten said "We need a constructive dialogue with Turkey on the observance of fundamental rights, the independence of the judiciary and freedom of expression" (Handelsblatt, DE, 13/3).

- uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 12/3, [link not available]
- uk.reuters.com, UK, 12/3, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/03/12/uk-turkey-ergenekon-idUKBREA2B1K20140312>
- Handelsblatt, DE, 13/3, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140313/mi/item_190888843.pdf

Ashton calls upon leaders to meet population needs and willingness to advance the EU (lavozlibre.com, ES, 12/3)

The EU's foreign policy chief, Catherine Ashton met with BiH political leaders in Sarajevo on March 12, and afterwards said the EU would help Bosnian leaders address protesters' demands to curb corruption and boost the economy, without going into detail on what form that assistance might take. She also urged political leaders to look beyond ethnic divisions and act on public demands. Bosnia and Herzegovina has been plagued by corruption, unemployment, and political dysfunction since the end of the 1992-1995 Balkan war (rferl.org, CZ, 12/3).

- lavozlibre.com, ES, 12/3, <http://www.lavozlibre.com/noticias/ampliar/891750/ashton-pide-a-los-dirigentes-que-respondan-a-necesidades-de-la-poblacion-y-voluntad-para-avanzar-a-la-ue>
- rferl.org, CZ, 12/3, <http://www.rferl.org/content/eu-ashton-bosnia-talks/25294604.html>

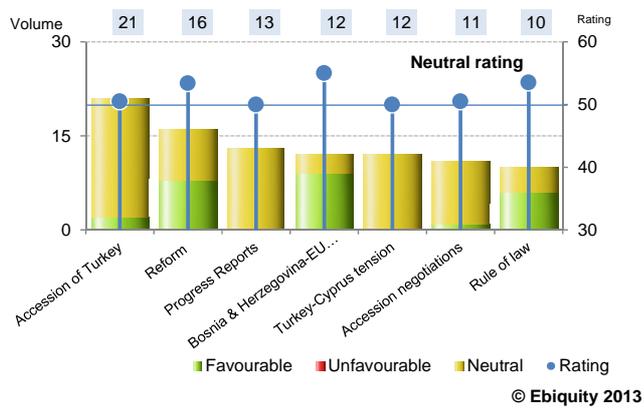
Reform in Kosovo

One of the criteria for the accession of Kosovo in the European Union is the reformation of public administration. Experts say that this administration is overfilled and unprofessional. The government of Kosovo, which is ending its term in office, will not be able to finalise the process of the reform of the public sector. A great number of laws have been voted in order for this process to advance based on the directives and requirements of the EU, but the reform is yet to be concluded. Professor of constitutional law, Fatos Rushiti, says that politicians in Kosovo continue to exert control over the state administration, although they are well informed about the advantages of a professional and neutral administration. "In Kosovo, the party affiliation has more value than the merits of the individual" he said (balkaneu.com, EL, 12/3).

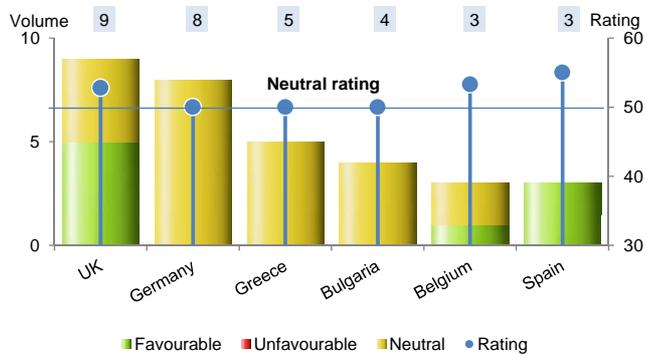
- balkaneu.com, EL, 12/3, <http://www.balkaneu.com/administration-kosovo-unprofessional-politically-influenced/>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
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Volume	44 items
Rating	51.7
Favourable %	27.3%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	72.7%

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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)	10
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	8
Ria Oomen-Ruijten (MEP)	7
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	6
Angelika Werthmann (MEP)	6

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