



Key Quotes

Turkey banned YouTube on Thursday after the video-sharing website was used to spread damaging leaked audio files from a state security meeting debating possible military action in Syria. **"This is another desperate and depressing move in Turkey"**, tweeted European Commission Vice President Neelie Kroes. Deputy State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said the US had been **"very strongly saying (to Turkish officials) that they need to stop doing this"** (Yahoo!, UK, 27/3).

<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/turkey-bans-youtube-twitter-154018879.html#ARE3Uso>

"New Serbian government will accelerate the country's path to the EU", Serbian President Tomislav Nikolić said. **"The new government will be formed based on the decisive victory of one political option that advocates for Serbia's EU membership and the Serbian parliament will not contain a single parliamentary group that is against Serbia's EU path"**, he added (Dnevnik.bg, BG, 27/3).

http://www.dnevnik.bg/evropa/razshirivane/2014/03/27/2270299_novoto_srubsko_praavitelstvo_shte_uskori_putia_na/?ref=rss

Summary

Twitter ban may stay for the time being

Prime Minister Tayyip Erdoğan appeared on Wednesday to have succeeded in asserting a ban on the Twitter networking site in the run-up to critical local polls he fears could be influenced by what he calls fake online tapes accusing him of corruption. An Ankara court upheld an appeal against the ban from the bar association, but a source in Erdoğan's office said the telecoms authority had 30 days to implement or appeal the decision. The regulator did not immediately comment. The ruling, despite a separate court challenge by Twitter describing the blocking order as *"disproportionate and illegal"*, would allow the ban to stay in place until after the polls, an attempt to impede widely expected further releases of tapes ([greekherald.com](http://www.greekherald.com), GR, 27/3). The ban in the run up to local elections has been met with national and international outrage, with EU officials, human rights organisations, the US government and the UN expressing concern ([computerweekly.com](http://www.computerweekly.com), UK, 27/3).

· [greekherald.com](http://www.greekherald.com), GR, 27/3, <http://www.greekherald.com/index.php/sid/220611668/scat/88176adfdf246af5>

· [computerweekly.com](http://www.computerweekly.com), UK, 27/3, <http://www.computerweekly.com/news/2240217009/Twitter-expects-Turkey-to-lift-ban-after-court-ruling>

UK Prime Minister attacked over Turkish links

David Cameron has come under attack for forming an allegiance with the ruling party in Turkey that has outlawed Twitter. The Conservatives are at the core of a pan-European group that recently accepted the Justice and Development Party (AKP) as a member. Umut Oran, deputy chairman of the People's Republican Party said *"No one believing in the fundamental values of democracy in Europe can approve of Erdoğan's practices"*. Last night, a Tory member of the Alliance of European Conservatives and Reformists, as the Europe-wide party is known, said it was not considering expelling Mr Erdoğan's party, despite the apparent contradiction with his group's stated commitment to *"freedom of the individual"*. Daniel Hannan, a Tory MEP, said that the alliance valued having a *"positive relationship with Ankara"* (Times, UK, 27/3).

· Times, UK, 27/3, [link not available]

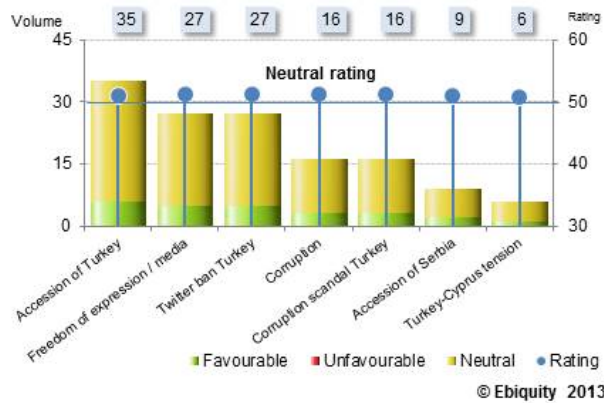
Serbians back EU membership

A majority of Serbian citizens back country's EU integration and are ready to back accession at a possible referendum. However, the results of a recent survey carried out by IPSOS Strategic Marketing show that only one-third of them are aware of the current stage of Serbia's EU integration process. According to the poll, 54% of the respondents say they would cast their vote at a possible referendum, while 29% of the people questioned declared support, and 19% said they were against the membership. According to the agency, the poll shows that the Serbian citizens are not well acquainted with EU membership in general ([focus-fen.net](http://www.focus-fen.net), BG, 26/3).

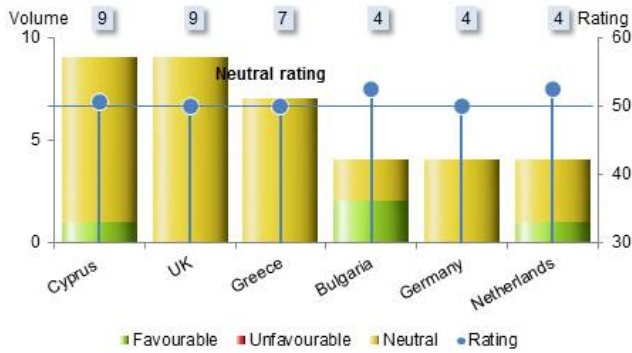
· [focus-fen.net](http://www.focus-fen.net), BG, 26/3, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/03/26/331078/beta-serbia-citizens-support-to-eu-membership-increases.html>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	47 items
Rating	50.9
Favourable %	17.0%
Unfavourable %	2-1%
Neutral %	80.9%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	27
Abdullah Gül (President of Turkey)	5
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	4
Nicos Anastasiades (President, Cyprus)	3
Neelie Kroes (Digital Media Commissioner, EC)	3
Mehmet Ali Talat (Former Turkish Cypriot leader)	3

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