

Key Quotes

Turkey's Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has claimed victory for his party in local elections, and vowed that his enemies would "**pay the price**". Speaking from a balcony at his party's headquarters in Ankara, Mr Erdoğan thanked his supporters. "**You stood up for Turkey's ideals... for politics, for your party and your prime minister**," he said. But he warned he would "**enter the lair**" of enemies who had accused him of corruption and leaked state secrets. "**They will pay for this**," he said (BBC Online, UK, 31/3)

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26807067>

MEP Dvaor Stier criticises government proposal for new EU approach to Bosnia. "**The EU will not further ease conditions which Bosnia and Herzegovina must meet to get a date for the opening of EU accession talks without it first implementing the ruling in the Sejdic-Finci case, a condition which concerns fundamental human rights and freedoms and which has been expanded to include settling the status of the Croat community**," said Member of the European Parliament Dvaor Stier. "**Pusic's approach is going in the wrong direction and will not be supported by the European Council**," he added (dalje.com, HR, 29/3)

<http://dalje.com/en-world/stier-criticises-govt-proposal-for-new-eu-approach-to-bosnia/504254>

Summary

Coverage of the YouTube ban continued.

Ahmet Davutoğlu, the Foreign Minister, who took part in the bugged meeting, called the leak "*a declaration of war*" by Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's opponents. "*A cyber attack has been carried out against the Turkish Republic, our state and our valued nation. This is a clear declaration of war against the Turkish state and our nation*," Mr Davutoğlu said. Mr Erdoğan, the Prime Minister, denounced the leak as "*vile*" at a rally in the southeastern city of Diyarbakir. In recent weeks, Mr Erdoğan has blamed a religious network inspired by Fethullah Gulen, a US-based imam, for a stream of damaging leaks mainly involving corruption allegations.

· Times, UK, 28/3, (*no link available*)

Turkey's relationship with the EU

Although the new European Union Minister, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, talks of 2014 as the year of the EU, he concedes that popular support for EU membership has fallen from 70% in 2005 to only 40% today. In truth, EU membership talks are stalled, and they are unlikely to revive soon, not least because Mr Erdoğan has lost interest. He is also said to have become more dismissive of Turkey's NATO membership. Muharrem Yılmaz, chairman of Tüsiad, the industrialists' lobby, complained that the government did not take advantage of EU membership talks to strengthen political and economic institutions, and that its reform momentum has run out (economist.com, UK, 27/3).

· [economist.com](http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21599819-increasingly-autocratic-prime-minister-losing-touch-voters-and-damaging-his-country), UK, 27/3, <http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21599819-increasingly-autocratic-prime-minister-losing-touch-voters-and-damaging-his-country>

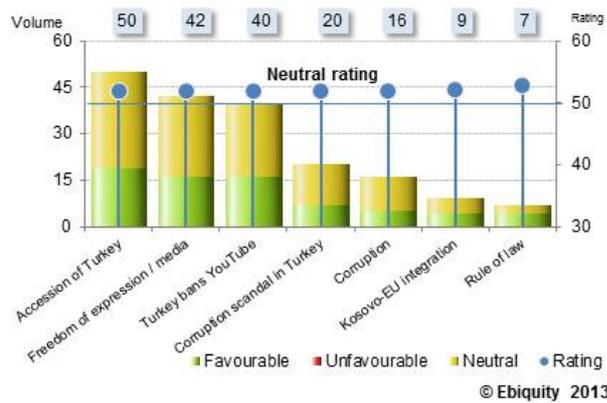
An accession route for Bosnia and Herzegovina

Croatian President Ivo Josipović said that Croatia had recommended that the EU offer a specially formed European path for Bosnia and Herzegovina, because of their specific domestic situation. So far Croatians have not described the details of their proposal, but President Ivo Josipović believes that the launch of accession negotiations would represent a very important step towards a more stable Bosnia and Herzegovina, as it would shift the focus from its disintegration. President Josipović added that it is important to allow Bosnia and Herzegovina to remain a legally and politically undisputed entity. The EC is still having ongoing discussions regarding the Croatian proposal, but it seems that certain Member States have an aversion towards any specially formed accession path, and Bosnia and Herzegovina is no exception to that (Vecernji-List, SI, 28/3).

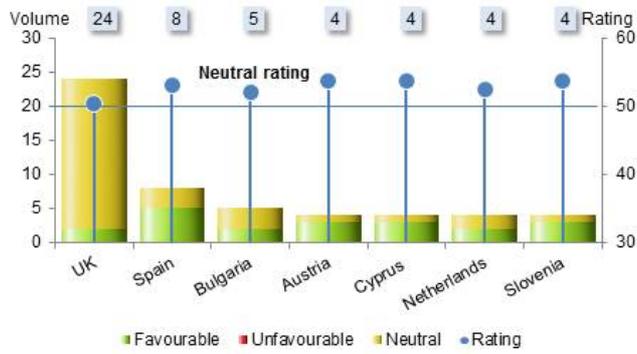
· Vecernji-List, SI, 28/3, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140328/mi/item_192928706.pdf

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
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Volume	63 items
Rating	51.8
Favourable %	36.5%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	63.5%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	42
Neelie Kroes (Digital Media Commissioner, EC)	16
Ahmet Davutoğlu (Foreign Minister, Turkey)	11
José Manuel Barroso (President, EC)	3
Baroness Catherine Ashton, (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	3
Maja Kocijancic (Spokesperson to HRVP Catherine Ashton)	3

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