



## Key Quotes

A deal to end the 40-year-old Cyprus conflict could happen this year, the Turkish Cypriot leader has said. "Our target remains ... the settlement of the Cyprus problem in the shortest possible time," Derviş Eroğlu said. "We said a settlement is possible within this year. We can finalise a settlement, and take it to ... separate simultaneous referenda, in 2014." (MSN, UK, 22/4)

<http://news.uk.msn.com/cyprus-accord-possible-this-year>

## Summary

### Turkey Twitter accounts appear blocked after Erdoğan court action (focus-fen.net, BG, 20/4)

Two anonymous Twitter accounts used to release secretly recorded conversations implicating family and associates of Turkey's Prime Minister and senior government officials in a corruption scandal appeared on Sunday to have been blocked. Twitter last week agreed to comply with a Turkish government request to close some accounts that officials said had breached national security or privacy regulations. The two accounts - Haramzadeler and Bascalan - each had more than 400,000 followers, who now see only a red circle with a line through it and cannot access any tweeted material.

Twitter said in a tweet on its policy feed: "Reminder: Our Country Withheld Content Policy means we act after due process, e.g., a court order" adding "We don't withhold content at the mere request of a gov't official and we may appeal a court order when it threatens freedom of expression" (uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 20/4). Turkey's Minister of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communication, Lüfti Elvan, says Turkey may establish a national 'tnt' protocol instead of the regularly used 'www' (balkans.com, UK, 21/4).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 20/4, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/04/20/333702/twitter-blocks-two-accounts-on-its-turkish-network.html>
- uk.news.yahoo.com, UK, 20/4, <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/turkey-twitter-accounts-appear-blocked-erdogan-court-action-154801520--finance.html#Eqnik8m>
- balkans.com, UK, 21/4, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=192052>

### Turkey's Gül hints at end of career

Abdullah Gül, Turkey's President appears to rule out switching jobs to become Prime Minister and suggested he may bow out of political life, only four months before the country's first presidential election. Mr Gül's remarks could have consequences for Turkey's future direction at a time of increasing charges of authoritarianism against Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the Prime Minister, who himself has his eye on the presidency. The more conciliatory Mr Gül, a former foreign minister who consistently stresses the importance of Turkey's stalled EU membership bid, has been hailed by his supporters as a moderating influence. In recent days, Mr Erdoğan has signalled he would try to keep his hands on executive power if he runs in August's elections (Financial-Times, UK, 19/4). Similarly, in relation to increasing authoritarianism, German media report Christian Democrat parliamentary leader Volker Kauder's call for more freedom of worship in Turkey, particularly for Christians, insisting they should be allowed to build their churches in Turkey just as Muslims are allowed to build their mosques in Germany. Kauder argued that Turkey was still a far step from the European community of values, so long as they refuse to guarantee freedom of worship. He said the European Union had to get much clearer still with Ankara over this point (Die Welt, syndicated, 19/4).

- Financial-Times, UK, 19/4 – no link available
- Die Welt, DE, 19/4, [http://www.welt.de/newsticker/dpa\\_nt/infoline\\_nt/schlaglichter\\_nt/article127111854/Kauder-fordert-von-Tuerkei-mehr-Religionsfreiheit.html](http://www.welt.de/newsticker/dpa_nt/infoline_nt/schlaglichter_nt/article127111854/Kauder-fordert-von-Tuerkei-mehr-Religionsfreiheit.html)

### European central bank aid for Balkans

The European Central Bank (ECB) has launched a Eurosystem cooperation programme with the Bank of Albania (BoA), the Central Bank of the Republic of Kosovo (CBRK) and the National Bank of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (NBRM). The European Union has allocated €500,000 to the programme from its Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance. The programme aims to prepare the three central banks in the region for joining the European System of Central Banks (balkans.com, UK, 21/4)

- balkans.com, UK, 21/4, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=192090>

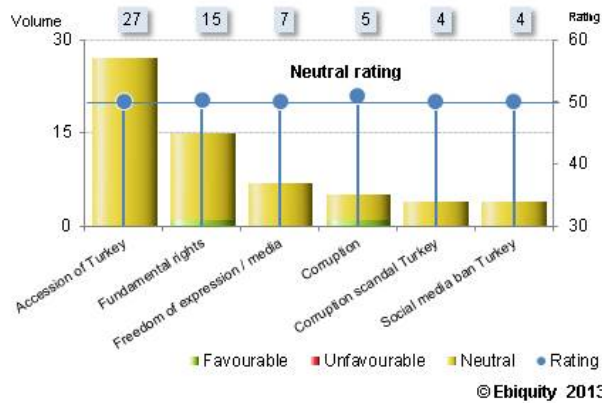
### Crimes Tribunal in Kosovo

Priština daily Bota Sot wrote that current leaders of Kosovo, such as Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi, could stand before a special crimes tribunal considered by the EU and US. It says the court should sit in the Netherlands to ensure the protection of witnesses and translated evidence. The report criticises that the intent reflected disappointment that both the Kosovo authorities and the European Union failed to establish a functional judicial system in the newly created state (Denik.cz, 20/4 and Týden.cz, 19/4).

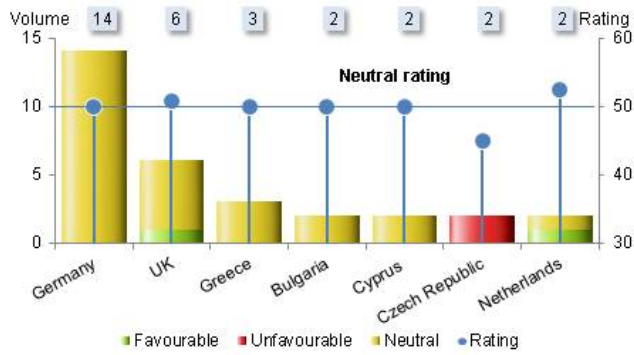
- Denik.cz, 20/4, [http://www.denik.cz/ze\\_sвета/pred-tribunalem-pro-zlociny-v-kosovu-muze-stanout-i-premier-thaci-20140420.html](http://www.denik.cz/ze_sвета/pred-tribunalem-pro-zlociny-v-kosovu-muze-stanout-i-premier-thaci-20140420.html)
- Týden.cz, 19/4, [http://www.tyden.cz/rubriky/zahranici/evropa/zlociny-v-kosovu-naklusat-pred-tribunal-by-mel-i-premier-thai\\_304656.html#.U1Z4pLJISVp](http://www.tyden.cz/rubriky/zahranici/evropa/zlociny-v-kosovu-naklusat-pred-tribunal-by-mel-i-premier-thai_304656.html#.U1Z4pLJISVp)

## Charts

ELARG: **Leading Daily Issues**  
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: **Leading Daily Countries**  
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: **Highlights**  
by volume, favourability & rating

<b>Volume</b>	31 items
<b>Rating</b>	50
<b>Favourable %</b>	6.5%
<b>Unfavourable %</b>	6.5%
<b>Neutral %</b>	87%

© Ebiqity 2014

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Volker Kauder (Politician, Germany)	13
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	7
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	2
Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu (EU Affairs Minister, Turkey)	2

© Ebiqity 2014

**Disclaimer:** The access to this press report is restricted to European Commission staff. It should not be forwarded or circulated.