



## Key Quotes

Declaration of the Parliamentary Trilateral Meeting Poland-Romania-Turkey, Bucharest, May 7, 2014: **"We firmly support Turkey's accession to the European Union, which we consider of greatest importance for the security of Europe, and corresponding to the aspirations of the Turkish society. We will work closely to facilitate the advancement of EU-Turkey accession negotiations in order to reach further progress in Turkey's accession process, based on the EU acquis"** ([actamedia.eu](http://actamedia.eu), RO, 8/5)

<http://actamedia.eu/daily/declaration-of-the-parliamentary-trilateral-meeting-poland-romania-turkey-bucharest-may-7-2014/51977>

## Summary

### Serbia and recognition of Kosovo

The Republic of Serbia has started negotiations for accession to the European Union but it has not yet given up on Kosovo in its Constitution. Analysts and constitutional experts say that in the near future Serbia must make constitutional amendments in order to give up on Kosovo once and for all, if it is aiming at EU accession. Professor of constitutional law, Fatos Rushiti says that EU has made it clear that Serbia cannot be part of this organisation if it doesn't make this step official ([balkaneu.com](http://balkaneu.com), GR, 6/5). The Rhein Zeitung ([rhein-zeitung.de](http://rhein-zeitung.de), DE, 7/5) confirmed this noting that the crucial point in the EU accession negotiations will be the answer to the Kosovo issue. The Republic of Kosovo remains part of Serbia which denies the country the recognition. The EU is clear on this - without the recognition of Kosovo, there will be no accession of Serbia.

- [balkaneu.com](http://balkaneu.com), GR, 6/5, <http://www.balkaneu.com/serbia-kosovo-eu/>
- [rhein-zeitung.de](http://rhein-zeitung.de), DE, 7/5, [http://www.rhein-zeitung.de/nachrichten/rz-thema\\_artikel,-Sehnsucht-nach-Normalitaet-Serbien-will-EU-Mitglied-werden-arid,1147680.html](http://www.rhein-zeitung.de/nachrichten/rz-thema_artikel,-Sehnsucht-nach-Normalitaet-Serbien-will-EU-Mitglied-werden-arid,1147680.html)

### Kosovo elections in June

Kosovo's parliament dissolved on May 7, after leaders of the country's main political parties agreed to hold early parliamentary elections on June 8. The decision to dissolve parliament came after lawmakers from Kosovo's Serb minority blocked a vote on creating a national army by refusing to show up. Pristina's Western backers, who recognized Kosovo's 2008 unilateral declaration of independence, were reluctant to see the immediate creation of an army for fear of the message it might send to Kosovo's ethnic Serbs. The vote on a national army was scheduled for May 5, but Kosovo's constitution requires two-thirds of lawmakers to vote, as well as two-thirds of minority deputies. Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi says leaders of Kosovo's biggest political parties agreed to hold a June 8 vote instead of an election planned for November ([rferl.org](http://rferl.org), CZ, 7/5).

- [rferl.org](http://rferl.org), CZ, 7/5, <http://www.rferl.org/content/kosovos-parliament-being-dissolved-early-elections-scheduled/25375796.html>

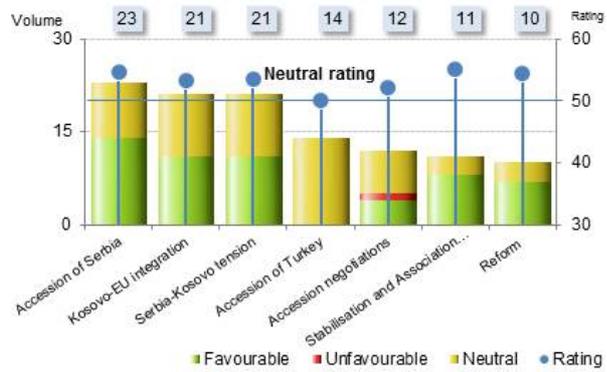
### Democracy in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

It may be a moot point whether the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia meets the dictionary definition of a democracy – but despair is not the answer, writes Erwan Fouéré, a former EU Special Representative and Head of Delegation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Judging by its record in recent years, the VMRO-DPMNE governing party definition seems to be a state where government controls all the levers of power, including the judiciary and the electoral process, does not tolerate any minority or dissenting views, and uses fear and intimidation to exercise its authority over society. Those who continue to fight to restore the basic democratic standards expected of any country aspiring to join the EU must be supported. The incoming government must be persuaded that a spirit of compromise and effective consensus is more than ever, vital for the sake of the country's future ([euractiv.com](http://euractiv.com), BE, 6/5).

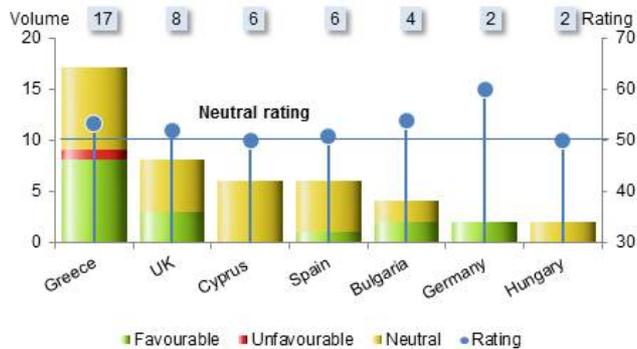
- [euractiv.com](http://euractiv.com), BE, 6/5, <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/enlargement/democracy-has-lost-its-meaning-macedonia-301943>

## Charts

**ELARG: Leading Daily Issues**  
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**ELARG: Highlights**  
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Volume	49 items
Rating	52.4
Favourable %	34.7%
Unfavourable %	2.0%
Neutral %	63.3%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	20
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	7
Atifete Jahjaga (President of Kosovo)	6
Egemen Bağış (Former Foreign Minister, Turkey)	6
Nicos Anastasiades (President, Cyprus)	5
Matthew Nimetz (Special Representative for the naming dispute between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, UN)	5

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