



Key Quotes

Erdogan seeks Turkish Presidency 'Putin style'

As in the case of President Putin, Erdogan is immersed in an increasing slide toward authoritarian methods of government, virtually impossible to make progress in the negotiations with the European Union, while it puts into question the confidence of international financial resources in the viability of the Turkish economy, in view of the increasing arbitrariness of power and the weakening of the independence of the judiciary. (CapitalMadrid.com, 12/5)

http://www.capitalmadrid.com/2014/5/12/0000033810/erdogan_busca_la_presidencia_de_turquia_al_estilo_putin.html

Summary

The future for Serbia

Serbia will have to carry out accession negotiations in parallel with the normalisation of relations with its former province, Kosovo. This is not an easy thing, Corina Stratulat, Policy Analyst of the European Policy Centre, told EurActiv (BE, 9/5). Like their predecessors, the new aspirant countries in the Balkans are also expected to become consolidated democracies, functioning market economies and to acquire the ability to implement the acquis. This has not changed. What is different, however, is that in order to be judged in compliance with these criteria, the standards have been raised and the methodology for applying and monitoring progress on the conditions has become more specific. Neurope.eu (BE, 9/4) reported that the head of the EU delegation to Serbia, Michael Davenport, said that Serbia and the European Union are determined to fulfil their responsibilities on the country's path to EU accession, adding that the strongest signal of EU support to Serbia were two separate visits from high EU officials - EU Foreign Policy chief Catherine Ashton and Štefan Füle, European Commissioner for enlargement - only days after the formation of the new government on April 27th.

- EurActiv, BE, 9/5, <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/enlargement/serbias-eu-path-not-walk-park-302032>
- Neurope.eu, BE, 9/4, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/eu-enlargement-continues-including-serbia-davenport>

Juncker and Schulz against further EU admissions

Jean-Claude Juncker and his rival Martin Schulz clashed in a TV debate. On one important point, both candidates agreed; in the coming years there will be no EU enlargement. "I believe that we will be unable to handle rounds of enlargement in the foreseeable future," said Schulz, at present, President of the European Parliament. The people in the EU Member States are currently not ready for this. Schulz also criticized EU-candidate country Turkey (ariva.de, DE, 8/5).

- ariva.de, DE, 8/5, <http://www.ariva.de/news/Juncker-und-Schulz-gegen-EU-Neuaufnahmen-5031235>

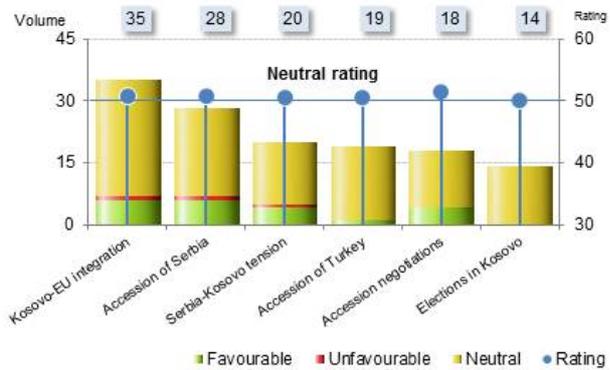
EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Conference

Under the auspices of the Greek Presidency of the EU, the EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Conference was held yesterday in Thessalonica. The May 8 conference reconfirmed the support of the member countries for the continuation of the enlargement process in the Western Balkan region. This conference has brought attention to the achievements of the Thessalonica Summit of 2003, which reconfirmed the arrival of the region's countries to the EU. During the conference, Greek Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Mr. Evangelos Venizelos, Enlargement Commissioner, Štefan Füle, Italian Foreign Minister, Federica Mogherini and other participants said that EU enlargement policy is not part of the problems that member countries face, but part of their solution. This policy has kept Europe safe and peaceful and has transformed and modernized former communist countries, by offering peace to citizens, freedom and prosperity (balkaneu.com, BE, 9/5).

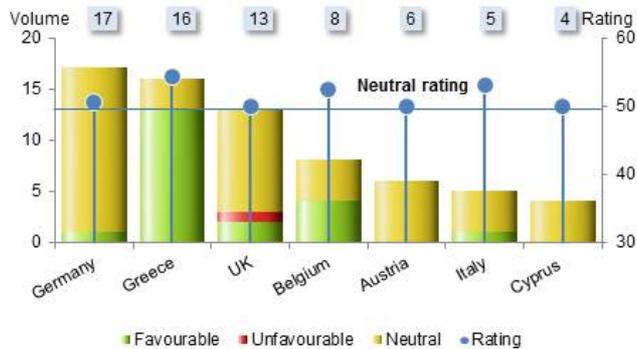
- balkaneu.com, BE, 9/5, <http://www.balkaneu.com/thessalonica-conference-bushati-eu-enlargement-process-credible/>

Charts

ELARG: **Leading Daily Issues**
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Volume	81 items
Rating	51.9
Favourable %	29.6%
Unfavourable %	1.2%
Neutral %	69.2%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Jean-Claude Juncker (Presidential candidate, EC)	19
Martin Schultz, President, European Parliament)	18
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	9
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	9
Evangelos Venizelos (Foreign Minister, Greece)	9

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