



Key Quotes

Austrian Ambassador Dr Karl Mueller said that Austria has not changed its fundamental position on Turkey's EU accession negotiations since 2005, which leaves open the question whether there should be a privileged partnership, another relationship of a privileged kind or full membership. He said that Austria **"is very much in favour of continuing the negotiations"** but pointed out that the Austrian public is quite sceptical concerning Turkey's full membership. Dr Mueller said that Austria is one of the very few countries with a necessity of a referendum on this **"and we would like there to be a situation and a result of the overall accession process which can be approved by the Austrian population."** Asked about the issues on which Turkey's EU accession depends, he said that Ankara's obligations towards Cyprus is one of many conditions (famaqusta-gazette.com, CY, 22/5).

<http://famaqusta-gazette.com/austrian-ambassador-cyprus-has-future-role-in-energy-sector-for-europe-p23664-69.htm>

Summary

Enlargement and the future of Turkey in Europe

Two of the most prominent contenders for the helm of the European Commission disparaged extremist political parties on Tuesday, days before European elections that are expected to deliver gains for the far right. The two men agreed on most issues during the 75-minute ARD debate - from the fight against unemployment and the prevention of over-regulation, to support for a free trade deal with the US and concern that Turkey is not yet ready to join the EU (morningstar.co.uk, UK, 21/5). FT.com (UK, 20/5) suggested that if Erdoğan wins the Presidential Election in Turkey he will preside over a divided country, for he has squandered the opportunity to forge a new social contract: a democratic Turkey under the rule of law, at ease with its Muslim identity, and working towards complementing its longstanding membership of NATO with entry into the EU. In Austria Commissioner Hahn looking back on his term and commenting on the future of enlargement said *"work on this field must continue,"* adding *"We have learned our lessons, and chapters like rule of law and democracy are now handled at the beginning of negotiations. Quality is more important than speed,"* he said (Kurier, AT, 21/5).

- morningstar.co.uk, UK, 21/5, http://www.morningstar.co.uk/uk/news/AN_1400649306242758900/top-eu-candidates-warn-voters-against-extremists-ahead-of-elections.aspx
- FT.com, UK, 20/5, <http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/74732b02-e025-11e3-b709-00144feabdc0.html#axzz32JzXo800>
- Kurier, AT, 21/5, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140521/mi/item_199615127.pdf

President Fischer on a state visit to Albania

Austria will support Albania in gaining the candidate status of the European Union, Austrian President Heinz Fischer said on Tuesday (vol.at, AT, 20/5). Albania could count on Austria both in terms of its EU integration and in bilateral economic cooperation, Fischer said when meeting Albanian Parliament Speaker Ilir Meta. He expressed appreciation of the stabilizing role of the Albanian government, saying, *"Albania is trying to play a moderate role in the region in making various decisions and negotiations on the path to integration."* It was very important for Albania to improve investment climate, fight against corruption and establish the rule of law, he added (balkans.com, UK, 21/5).

- vol.at, AT, 20/5, [link not available]
- balkans.com, UK, 21/5, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=193279>

Elections in Kosovo

Roberto Gualtieri, MEP of the Democratic Party, has been appointed by the High Representative for Foreign Policy, Baroness Catherine Ashton, as head of the observers who will monitor the parliamentary elections in Kosovo, to be held on 8 June. Ashton says that she is *"confident that under his leadership the election observation mission will play back successfully"* (Repubblica, IT, 21/5).

- Repubblica, IT, 21/5, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140521/mi/item_199618448.pdf
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Charts

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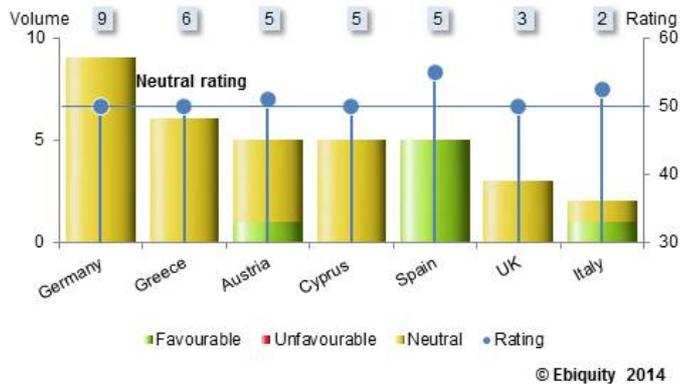
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Martin Schultz (President, European Parliament)	14
Jean-Claude Juncker (Presidential candidate, EC)	14
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	8
Roberto Gualtieri (MEP)	7
Heinz Fischer (President, Austria)	6
Edi Rama (Prime Minister, Albania)	5
Atifete Jahjaga (President, Kosovo)	5
Bujar Nishani (President, Albania)	5

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