



Key Quotes

The Czech Republic is prepared to block the granting of EU candidate status to Albania over a dispute between the ČEZ Czech state-controlled power utility and the Albanian state, high-ranking EU sources told The Czech News Agency (ČTK). Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka said today the Czech Republic generally supports the EU enlargement in the Balkans. ***"In this connection, the Czech Republic will be definitely interested in the protection of foreign investments in Albania, stability of its business environment and the fight against organized crime,"*** Sobotka said. ***"Each country to be given the EU's candidate status should meet the respective conditions,"*** he added. Sobotka said he expected the Czech Republic's stance to be on the agenda of one of the next government meetings (praguepost.com, CZ, 9/6) <http://www.praguepost.com/eu-news/39515-prague-ready-to-block-albania-s-eu-alignment-over-cez-dispute>

Summary

Kosovo election winner, Hashim Thaçi looking for a majority (lepoint.fr, FR, 9/6)

Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK) with its motto, "New Mission", won the early parliamentary elections held on June 8. So far the Central Election Commission has counted 95% of ballots and PDK is ranked first with 31.24% of votes, followed by Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK) with 26.12%, "Self Determination" with 13.73%, Alliance for the Future of Kosovo 9.65%, Incentive for Kosovo with 5.36%, New Kosovo Alliance with 4.72% and "Srpska" List with 2.91%. Leader of PDK, Hashim Thaçi said that Kosovo must be proud of these elections. ***"These elections focused on our citizens, where they decided about the state model that they want. "They conveyed a clear message and they had a European aim",*** declared Thaçi. Sunday's election was quiet, with minor irregularities, but these didn't damage the process. Turnout at the polls has been around 43%, while a smaller turnout has been noticed in the north of Kosovo, which is an area predominantly inhabited by the Serb community. Negotiations for the formation of the government will be difficult due to the fact that the leader of AAK continues to demand the post of prime minister. Nevertheless, citizens of Kosovo expect functional institutions, fight against corruption, improvement in the economic situation and reduction of unemployment from the new government (balkaneu.com, GR, 9/6). ***"Our party is the biggest winner of the national election"*** PDK deputy leader Kadri Veseli told a news conference. ***"Kosovo today spoke with one voice and confirmed the European future of our children"*** (agerpres.ro, RO, 9/6).

- lepoint.fr, FR, 9/6, http://www.lepoint.fr/monde/kosovo-vainqueur-des-elections-hashim-thaci-a-la-recherche-d-une-majorite-09-06-2014-1833914_24.php
- balkaneu.com, GR, 9/6, <http://www.balkaneu.com/new-mission-marks-triumph-parliamentary-election-kosovo/>
- agerpres.ro, RO, 9/6, <http://www.agerpres.ro/externe/2014/06/09/kosovo-partidul-premierului-hashim-thaci-proclama-victoria-in-alegerile-legislative-10-48-29>

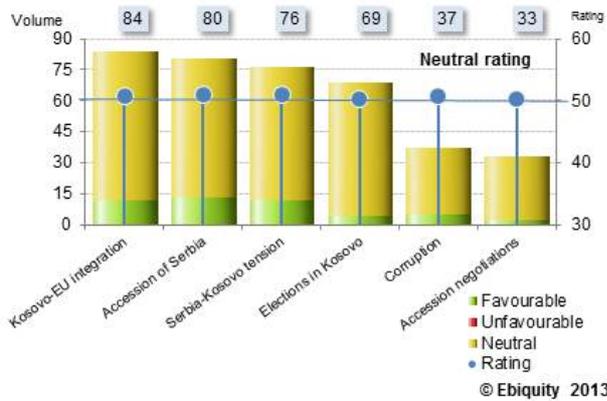
Austria pushes for Albanian accession

A Viennese effort to invite as many EU countries as possible to accept EU candidate status for Albania has led to 16 out of 28 EU member countries signing up. Austria is one of the countries in favour of Albania and has circulated in recent days a support letter in favour of granting Albania candidate status. The letter was circulated for three days in a row and before the weekend, it had been signed by 16 countries (balkaneu.com, GR, 9/6). The German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that Balkan countries have a clear prospect of joining the European Union, but the process will be long. First, Merkel says, progress must be made to improve the rule of law, safeguard civil liberties and fight corruption (dw.de, DE, 7/6).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 9/6, <http://www.balkaneu.com/integration-albania-16-28-states-sign-favor-status/>
- dw.de, DE, 7/6, <http://www.dw.de/merkel-western-balkan-states-have-clear-prospect-of-joining-european-union/a-17691433>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	107 items
Rating	51.0
Favourable %	15.9%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	84.1%

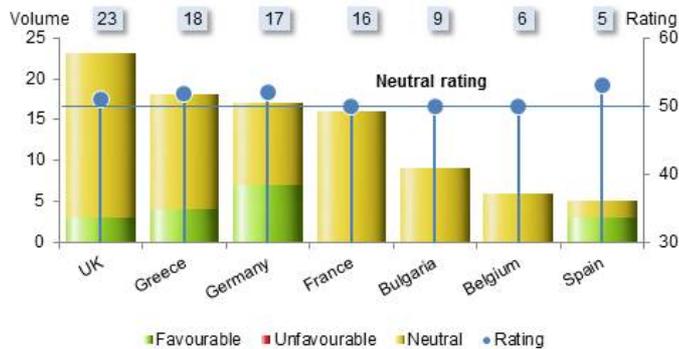
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ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources
by volume, favourability & rating

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	68
Aleksandar Vučić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	15
Angela Merkel (Chancellor, Germany)	11
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	4
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	3
Dervis Eroğlu (Turkish Cypriot leader)	3
Samuel Zbogar (Special Representative in Kosovo, EU)	2

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ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



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