



Key Quotes

Gianpaolo Scarante, the Italian Ambassador to Ankara stated that Italy fully supports Turkey's EU bid. Speaking to the Ankara Anatolia news agency, Scarante stated that Turkey will not only be helpful for the EU from the financial point of view but also socially and culturally.

"Therefore we always support and see positively Turkey's EU membership", he stated (hri.org, CY, 1/7).

<http://www.hri.org/news/cyprus/tcpr/2014/14-07-01.tcpr.html#05>

Summary

Albania's road to the EU

It's been a long, difficult journey; but as of last week, Albania has been able to call itself an official candidate for membership in the European Union. Following Albania's first application for candidacy in 2009, the European Commission issued an Opinion which put forward twelve key priorities that the nation needed to meet in order to achieve candidate status. Eight of these priorities are well in progress – with four being fully met – but what triggered the Commission to grant Albania candidacy was the nation's demonstration of reform efforts; specifically, the general election of June 2013, which was widely considered to be fair and democratic. Albania still needs to improve upon several key points to obtain membership in the EU, such as the implementation of anti-discriminatory policies, the fair treatment of detainees in police stations and prisons, an effective national strategy on property rights, the proper implementation of the government's anti-corruption strategy, and the fight against organized crime, just to name a few (balkans.com, UK, 1/7).

- balkans.com, UK, 1/7, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=194850>

Barroso: EU supports Serbia's European course (real.gr, GR, 30/6)

The EU continues to firmly support Serbia's European path in order to facilitate its rapid entry into the European Union as a full member, according to EC president José Manuel Barroso. Speaking in Belgrade at a joint press conference with Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić, Barroso praised the significant progress made by Serbia in the process of European integration. *"During the meeting we talked about the reforms that Serbia is pursuing and about the others that need to be made"* Barroso said, according to him the accession negotiations which began on Jan. 21, are progressing well. So far, he said, a screening test was done for 18 of the 35 negotiating chapters, and Serbia has proved its willingness to fight against corruption and crime, respect human rights and make a reform of public administration. Referring to dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina, Barroso praised the commitment of both parties, that have shown courage and vision, and this was proved by the numerous agreements which have been reached (ansa.it, IT, 30/6).

- real.gr, GR, 30/6, <http://www.real.gr/DefaultArthro.aspx?page=arthro&id=335470&catID=4>
- ansa.it, IT, 30/6, https://www.ansa.it/nuova_europa/en/news/sections/politics/2014/06/30/serbia-eu-barroso-strong-support-to-european-integration_09ae725a-5568-4092-95af-65578cf87c95.html

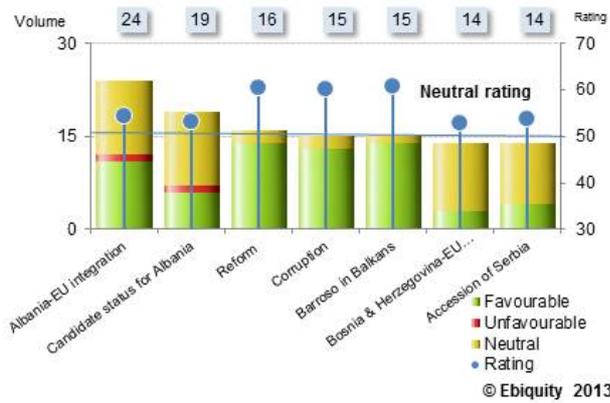
Serbia woos Mandelson

Aleksandar Vučić, the prime minister of Serbia, has said that he is to renew his offer of hiring Lord Mandelson to help with his country's application to join the EU. A statement issued on Lord Mandelson's behalf by his consulting agency said: *"Global Counsel wishes the Serbian government well in its attempts to join the EU but we are not working for them"* (Times, UK, 1/7).

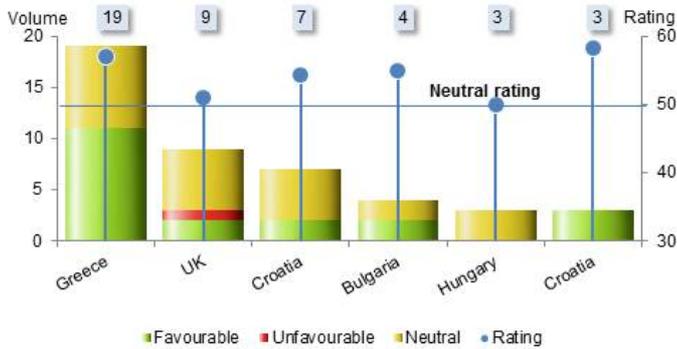
- Times, UK, 1/7, [link not available]

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	46 items
Rating	54.6
Favourable %	41.3%
Unfavourable %	2.2%
Neutral %	56.5%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Aleksandar Vučić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	16
José Manuel Barroso (President, EC)	14
Edi Rama (Prime Minister, Albania)	8
Ivica Dačić (Foreign Minister, Serbia)	5
Peter Mandelson (former Commissioner and UK Minister)	5
Tomislav Nikolić (President, Serbia)	4

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