



Key Quotes

The European Commissioner for Enlargement, Štefan Füle, speaking in Dubrovnik, Croatia, has expressed his support for the EU integration of Western Balkans, calling on member states not to give in **"to the fatigue caused by past enlargements"**. **"It is time for Europe to embrace the Western Balkans more intensely,"** the Commissioner said. **"We know that the expansion is a transformation mechanism that guarantees success,"** Füle added (ansa.it, IT, 11/7).

http://www.ansa.it/nuova_europa/en/news/sections/news/2014/07/11/fule-eu-integration-of-wb-part-of-solution-not-problem_e56a9ec7-758f-41ae-85aa-44f10054f65d.html

Summary

No German language test for Turks

In 2011, the European Commission announced, while language tests are legitimate, they may not get in the way of family life. While other nations such as the Netherlands agreed and changed their regulations, Germany has embarrassed itself by insisting on language tests. The European Court of Justice has now ruled on the standstill clause of the Association Agreement with Turkey, which prohibits disadvantages in migration options for Turkish citizens within the European Union (Tagesspiegel, DE, 11/7). The Court declared that Germany may not make additional requirements for residence. Each application needs to be scrutinised individually, the European Court of Justice states. This verdict also has consequences for Belgium, where Flemish parties also favoured language requirements for residence applications (Standaard, BE, 11/7).

- Trouw, NL, 11/7, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140711/mi/item_206304894.pdf
- Tagesspiegel, DE, 11/7, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140711/mi/item_206304610.pdf
- Standaard, BE, 11/7, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140711/mi/item_206338512.pdf

Bosnian officials doubt EU threats

Chairman of the Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina Nemanja Vasić is convinced that, despite threats by the European Union, his country will not impose penalties for refusing to allow the authorities in Sarajevo to technically adapt the interim trade agreement with the EU which would allow duty-free import of goods from the Croatia (Business.HR, HR, 11/7).

- Business.HR, HR, 11/7, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140711/mi/item_206331324.pdf

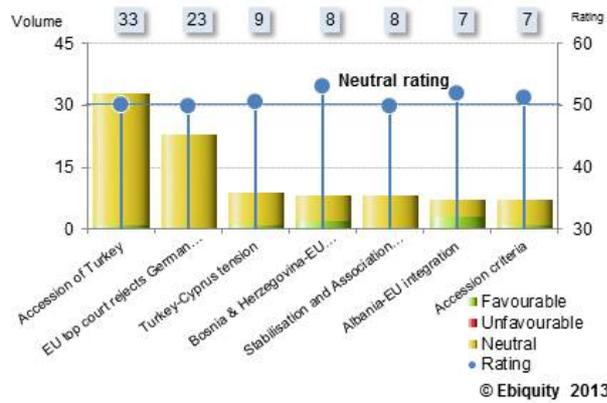
Albania's communist past influencing the present

The Albanian capital, one of the most polluted in Europe, is struggling to shake off the bicycle's '*communist*' image. EU membership plays a big role. Member states must adhere to environmental protection requirements. Croatia is a member already, as is Greece, and negotiations for Serbia's recognition were approved this January. Not so Albania, whose people, according to local journalist Rudina Hoxha, still view bicycles as the transport of the regime's benighted proletariat. *"Bikes were more present back then,"* she says. *"People are trying to revive that old image, but the bike is still on the periphery"* (theguardian.com, UK, 10/7).

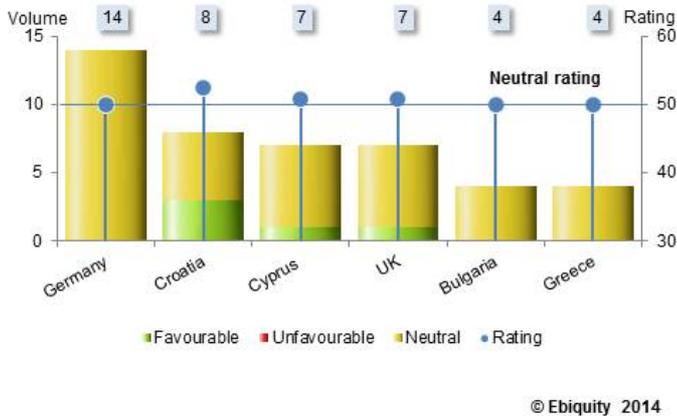
- theguardian.com, UK, 10/7, <http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2014/jul/11/tirana-addiction-cars-residents-cycling-albania-capital-bicycle-communist-image>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
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Volume	52 items
Rating	50.9
Favourable %	11.5%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	88.5%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	8
Vesna Pusić (Foreign Minister, Croatia)	5
Nemanja Vasić (Chairman Foreign Trade Chamber, BiH)	4
Baroness Catherine Ashton (High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, EU)	3
Ivo Josipovic (President, Croatia)	3
Federica Mogherini (Foreign Minister, Italy)	2

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