



Key Quotes

Speaking ahead of a vote that confirmed him as the European Commission's new president, Mr Juncker argued that, because the EU had rapidly expanded to 28 members, there needed to be **"a break from enlargement"**. He told MEPs: **"Over the next five years, there won't be any new member states acceding to the European Union. It's hard to imagine that one of the candidate states with whom we are negotiating will have, in time, met all the accession criteria."** (BBC Online, UK, 15/7).

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-28311938>

Summary

Brdo Process

Slovenian President Borut Pahor and his Croatian opposite number Ivo Josipović hosted in Dubrovnik on Tuesday the annual summit of the Brdo Process. The special guest of the strategic meeting of leaders of countries in SE Europe this year was German Chancellor Angela Merkel, while the main topic was EU integration (sta.si, SI, 15/7). President Ivo Josipović stressed the importance of integration of the Western Balkans region into the European Union. *"To us, it is important because of our security, our economy, and to help us deal with many problems that we have, and this is obviously the interest of us all here."* Josipović said that Merkel's attendance, just like the attendance of French President François Hollande last year, showed that the EU recognised its members Slovenia and Croatia as champions of the EU's policy towards the region (dalje.com, HR, 15/7).

- sta.si, SI, 15/7, <http://www.sta.si/vest.php?s=s&id=2030887>
- dalje.com, HR, 15/7, <http://dalje.com/en-croatia/josipovic--meeting-with-merkel-a-confirmation-of-regional-policy/515001>

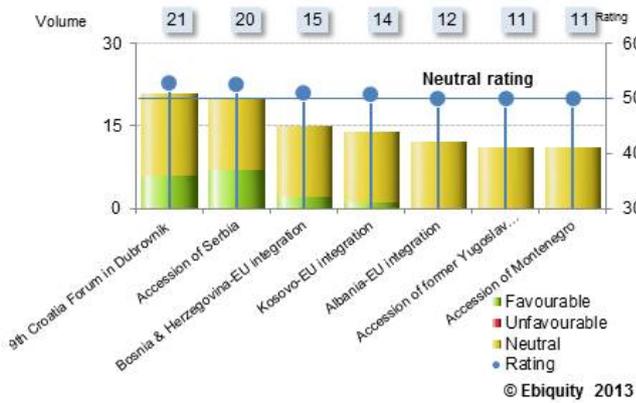
US visit to Albania

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama agreed Sunday on the need for a new dimension of co-operation. Both sides believed Nuland's visit will intensify bilateral economic relations and encourage U.S. entrepreneurs to invest in Albania. When meeting with Rama, Nuland congratulated Albania on obtaining the EU candidate country status and stressed the reform drive undertaken by the Albanian government was an important decision for the European future. Rama informed the U.S. official of Albania's determination to fight corruption and organized crime, as well as the need to reform the justice system, which were fully supported by Nuland. Nuland also welcomed the strategic project of Trans Adriatic Pipeline which runs from the Caspian sea via Albania to southern Italy, and Albania's role in energy security in Europe (neurope.eu, BE, 15/7).

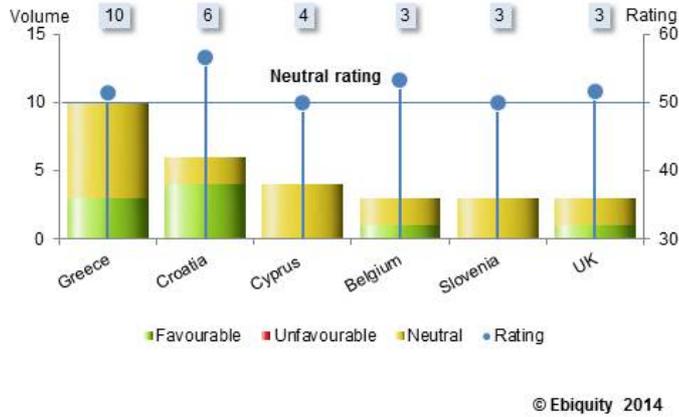
- neurope.eu, BE, 15/7, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/albania-us-develop-new-dimension-cooperation>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
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ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
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Volume	39 items
Rating	52.3
Favourable %	28.2%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	71.8%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Angela Merkel (Chancellor, Germany)	17
Ivo Josipović (President, Croatia)	16
Borut Pahor (President, Slovenia)	8
Tomislav Nikolić (President, Serbia)	6
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	4
Victoria Nuland (Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Department of State, US)	3
Michael Davenport (Head of the EU Delegation to Serbia)	3

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