



Key Quotes

The European Commission has said that the 28-nation bloc is closely following the detention of 99 police officers in Turkey. Peter Stano, spokesperson for EU Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle, stated that the European Commission wants an **"independent and impartial judicial process"** that is fully in line with European standards (dnevnik.bg, BG, 23/7).

http://www.dnevnik.bg/evropa/razshirivane/2014/07/23/2348815_brijuksel_iska_bezpristrastna_procedura_za_zadurjanite/?ref=rss

Summary

Support for the EU in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Support for the accession of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the European Union has increasingly fallen in the country. The latest survey shows that in the past six years, support for accession has fallen by 26%. Nevertheless, there's a dominating majority that desires and believes in the integration of the country in the big European family. The country aspires to be part of the EU and this is also the aspiration of the government, all political parties and civil society (balkaneu.com, GR, 23/7). *"Macedonia has strategic goals – membership in the EU and NATO and in this context the support of our friends from Bulgaria is of immense importance"* said Minister of Defence of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Zoran Jolevski, speaking for the media after meeting with his Bulgarian counterpart, Angel Naydenov (focus-fen.net, BG, 22/7).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 23/7, <http://www.balkaneu.com/dilemmas-process-european-integration-fyrom/>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 22/7, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/07/22/343310/eu-nato-membership-strategic-goals-of-macedonia-bulgarias-support-of-immense-importance-minister-jolevski.html>

Role of the Enlargement Commissioner

In an opinion piece Michał Szułdryński writing in Rzeczpospolita (PL, 23/7) looks into the issue of top EU officials. He examines the Enlargement Commissioner's post - although the lack of enlargement under this Commission would allow the Commissioner to focus on Eastern Partnership countries, he deems the post as too low in importance for it to influence EU policy. Hence Mr Szułdryński backs Donald Tusk for European Council President or Radosław Sikorski for High Representative. Either of the two would give Poland and the region a voice and counter-balance Russophilia prevalent in several Western Countries.

- Rzeczpospolita, PL, 23/7, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140723/mi/item_207642209.pdf

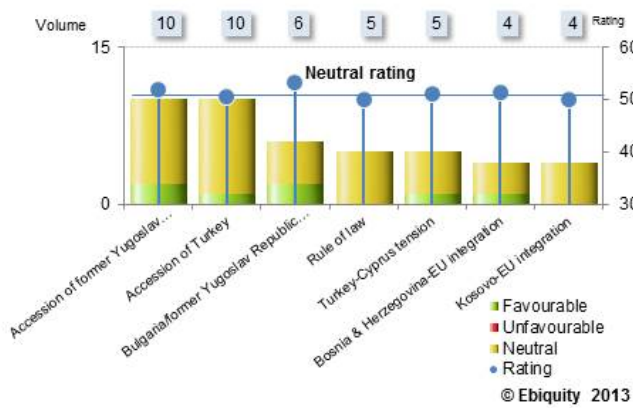
Rule of law and democratic process in Kosovo

US ambassador to Kosovo, Tracey Ann Jacobson has called on political leaders of the country to demonstrate that they know how to respect the rule of law in Kosovo, as they did with the holding of the June 8 elections. *"We must look at all the events that have taken place. First of all, there have been successful elections and then we've had a request by the President, who has demanded clarification by the Constitutional Court on the appointing of the Prime Minister nominee. Now we have another, extra inquiry addressed to the Constitutional Court. We must wait for the end of this. I believe that this is the normal progress of a young democracy"* she said. According to Jacobson, *"we must face this, because we're not only talking about the next four years or the formation of the government and parliament for the next four years, but we're talking about setting a precedent for the future of the country"* (balkaneu.com, GR, 22/7).

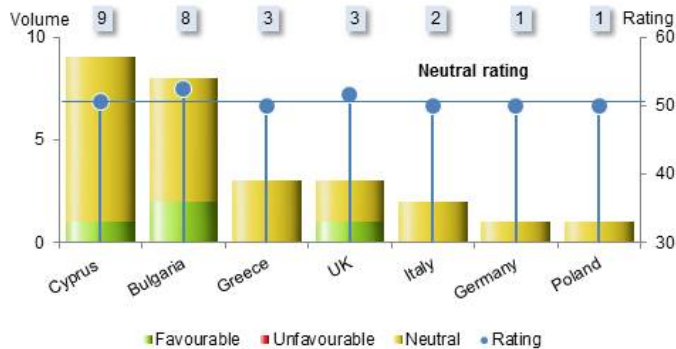
- balkaneu.com, GR, 22/7, <http://www.balkaneu.com/ambassador-pristina-urges-political-leaders-respect-ruling-constitutional-court/>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Issues
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	27 items
Rating	51.1
Favourable %	14.8%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	85.2%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Zoran Jolevski (Defence Minister, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	6
Angel Naydenov (Defence Minister, Bulgaria)	6
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey)	4
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	2
Dervis Eroğlu (Turkish Cypriot leader)	2

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