



Summary

There was further reporting of the meeting this week between Serbian and Kosovo Prime Ministers Ivica Dacic and Hashim Thaci in Brussels with EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton. Dacic was reported as saying *"This was a good and useful meeting. I believe that we made several steps forward."* He added that the talks would continue in early December (france24.com, FR, 8/11).

- france24.com, FR, 8/11, <http://www.france24.com/en/20121108-serbia-kosovo-premiers-hold-useful-second-round-talks>

The economic impact of membership was discussed when EC Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom announced that by the end of 2012 the EU may create a mechanism for reintroduction of visas for countries whose citizens at present enjoy visa-free travel. Seven EU member states are demanding such a mechanism due to the increasing influx of political refugees from the Western Balkans (reportedly up 73% in a year). According to the article these refugees do not meet EU requirements but are simply economic migrants who cannot be curbed by the visa system at the moment. *"We should have a suspension mechanism for countries outside the EU when the visa system is not effective"* Ms. Malmstrom added (focus-fen.net, BG, 8/11).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 8/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n291748>

The media focus revolved around Scotland's claim that it will continue to be a member of the EU and should not have to negotiate the terms of accession if it becomes independent, with wide-spread reporting in the UK. Alistair Darling former Chancellor has urged Alex Salmond to "come clean" and admit that an independent Scotland would not gain EU membership on 'nod and a wink'. *"There would have to be negotiations. He is a politician. He should know how political organisations work The gamble he is proposing has nothing to do with the racetrack and everything to do with the future of our country."* He said the Spanish and Cypriot governments have already made clear they oppose an independent Scotland's winning automatic membership and he expects other EU member states to follow suit. Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, and José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, have also indicated that Scotland would have to reapply.

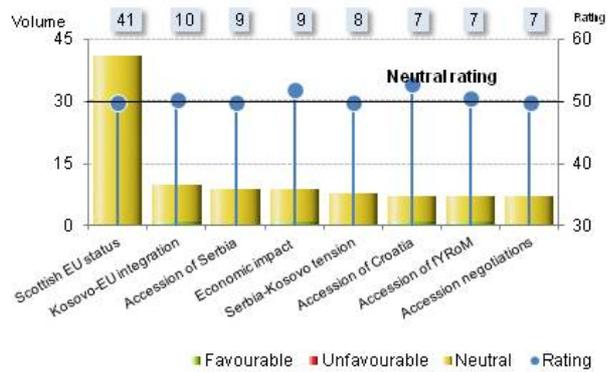
- telegraph.co.uk, UK, 8/11 <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/scotland/9662392/Alistair-Darling-Alex-Salmond-must-come-clean-over-EU.html>

Key Quotes

Fule: "Dangerous trends in Ankara". Speaking from Turkey, where he is on an official visit, Enlargement Commissioner Stefan Füle told the candidate member state that the adoption of the Ankara Protocol and normalisation of relations with the Republic of Cyprus will provide a boost to its accession negotiations. (Phileleftheros, Cyprus, 9/11) http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121109/mi/item_139482959.pdf

Charts

ELARG: **Leading Daily Issues**
by volume, favourability & rating

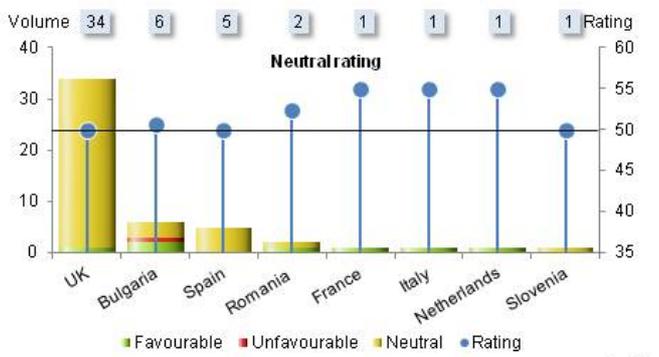


ELARG: **Highlights**
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Volume	51 items
Rating	50.6
Favourable %	13.7%
Unfavourable %	2.0%
Neutral %	84.3%

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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Alex Salmond (First Minister, Scotland)	31
David Cameron (Prime Minister, UK)	28
Frank Mulholland (Lord Advocate, Scotland)	28
Nicola Sturgeon (Deputy First Minister, Scotland)	27
Štefan Füle (Commissioner for Enlargement, EC)	5
Artur Mas (President of the Generalitat de Catalunya)	5