



Key Quotes

The foreign ministers of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia, Zlatko Lagumdžija and Ivica Dačić, called for greater regional cooperation. Dačić said his country was interested in a stable and prosperous Bosnia-Herzegovina, stressing that **"Serbia is interested in developing relations with Republika Srpska and with the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as with the central government in Sarajevo."** Dačić also underlined that the two nations supported each other in their respective bids for EU membership. **"We can do much more if we work together,"** Lagumdžija said, adding that **"the Balkans must not be neglected"**, and that stepping up the region's EU integration was in the interest of the international community (ansa.it, IT, 20/8).

http://www.ansa.it/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2014/08/20/serbian-and-bosnian-fms-call-for-closer-cooperation_af1fa2f5-d825-4bae-a574-e24dbbf3a3f1.html

Summary

New special adviser pro-European

Former Norwegian Foreign Minister, Espen Barth Eide will be the new United Nations Secretary General's special adviser on Cyprus, a Cypriot government spokesman confirmed on Tuesday. Espen Barth Eide is a Norwegian politician and prominent figure in Norway's Labour Party who served as the Defence Minister from November 2011 to September 2012 and then Foreign Minister until October 2013 (neurope.eu, BE, 20/8). He is reported to be a pro-European, favouring European integration and understands EU issues well. His appointment was approved by the two communities in Cyprus (Politis-Cyprus, 20/8).

- neurope.eu, BE, 20/8, <http://www.neurope.eu/article/former-norwegian-minister-help-solve-cyprus-problem>
- Politis-Cyprus, 20/8 http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140820/mi/item_210710147.pdf

Accession of Serbia and Kosovo

The dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina, mediated by Brussels should continue to solve all questions, and the process needs to be solved with a peace deal that would be legal and which will recognize the independence of Kosovo. That is what Kosovo President Atifete Jahjaga said, quoted today by Serbian Vecernje Novosti daily. Mrs Jahjaga has pointed out that she had supported dialogue as the only option Serbia and Kosovo have to resolve open issues, and it has helped to normalise relations. In her words, it is a precondition for EU membership (focus-fen.net, BG, 19/8). However the integration of Kosovo in the European Union will be a long process. This, due to the fact that the EU is neutral about the status of Kosovo, while its independence has not yet been recognised by five Member countries. Kosovo has finalised negotiations for the Stability and Association Agreement and a few days ago, this agreement was initialled in Brussels. According to experts of European integration, the initialling of the SAA doesn't have the power of initiation, and it only means that sides agree to the content of the Agreement text. In order for it to be signed, the EU Council must offer its formal consent (balkaneu.com, GR, 19/8).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 19/8, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/08/19/346086/vecernje-novosti-dialogue-between-belgrade-and-pristina-should-be-concluded-with-recognition-of-kosovo-kosovo-president-said.html>
- balkaneu.com, GR, 19/8, <http://www.balkaneu.com/kosovo-part-saa-eu/>

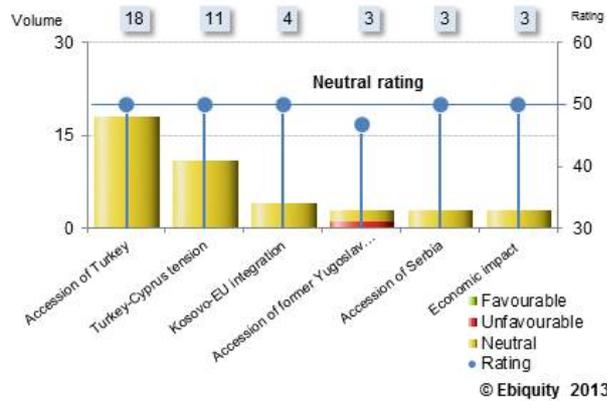
Kosovo constitutional crisis

Opposition and majority parties will present their arguments in front of the Constitutional Court concerning the political and institutional crisis. The hearing was requested by the Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK), which doesn't agree with the constitutionality of the election of the speaker of Parliament in the first Parliament session which took place on July 17. Based on this request, the Constitutional Court had previously annulled the election of Isa Mustafa as speaker of Parliament, until a final verdict is reached (balkaneu.com, GR, 20/8).

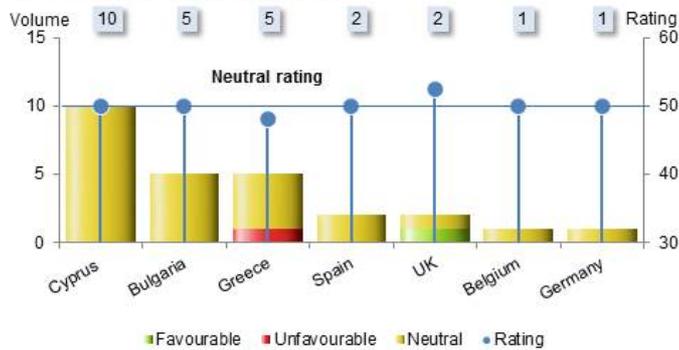
- balkaneu.com, GR, 20/8, <http://www.balkaneu.com/political-crisis-kosovo-majority-opposition-present-arguments-front-constitutional-court/>

Charts

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ELARG: **Highlights**
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	26 items
Rating	49.8
Favourable %	3.8%
Unfavourable %	3.8%
Neutral %	92.4%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Espen Barth Eide (Former Foreign Minister, Norway)	9
Nicos Anastasiades (President, Cyprus)	6
Dervis Eroğlu (Turkish Cypriot leader)	4
Ban Ki-moon (UN Secretary General)	3
Atifete Jahjaga (President, Kosovo)	2

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