



Key Quotes

Johannes Hahn.: **"EU Unlikely to Welcome New Member States in Foreseeable Future". "Quality and not speed will be decisive for EU enlargement"**, according to Johannes Hahn, the new EU Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (novinite.com, BG, 11/9).

<http://www.novinite.com/articles/163312/EU+Unlikely+to+Welcome+New+Member+States+in+Foreseeable+Future+%E2%80%93+Johannes+Hahn>

Summary

Johannes Hahn has an important portfolio

Johannes Hahn, the European Commissioner nominated by Austria, will now be in charge of neighbourhood policy and enlargement and no longer regional policy, which is funded with many billions of euros, writes Manfred Perterer in his editorial in the Salzburger Nachrichten (AT, 11/9). Detractors say dismissively that Mr Hahn's new portfolio is equivalent to the job of a hall monitor. The truth is different, says Mr Perterer, adding that neighbourhood refers to those countries that are often subject to crises and that are therefore of very central importance to Europe's security - like Turkey, Ukraine or the Northern African countries. The portfolio is therefore a challenge, says the author. Presse-Austria (AT, 11/9) notes that the new President elect has clarified that already in the new name of the portfolio - "*enlargement negotiations*" - it is clear that that during his term no new enlargement is planned. Therefore, the focus lies on the "*continuing negotiations*".

- Nachrichten, AT, 11/9, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140911/mi/item_213495077.pdf
- Presse-Austria, AT, 11/9, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140911/mi/item_213505090.pdf

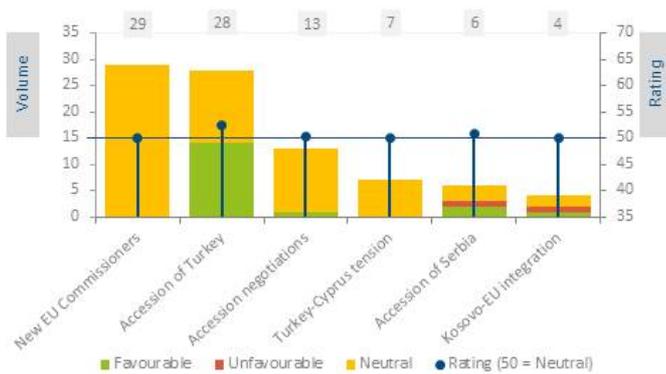
New government for Kosovo

Kosovo's main opposition bloc has signed a deal with the nationalist Vetëvendosje party that will allow it to secure a majority in parliament. The agreement, signed on September 10, paves the way for a new government in Kosovo, more than three months after the June elections. This means that although outgoing Prime Minister Hashim Thaci's Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK) took the largest share of the vote on June 8, the party will be forced into opposition since it has been unable to form a new coalition. Thaci's expected replacement is AAK leader Ramush Haradinaj. However, relations with both Belgrade and Kosovo's Serbian minority could prove problematic for the new government. A key concession made to Vetëvendosje - which the three existing coalition partners have been keen to bring on board - is to allow the strongly nationalist party to lead talks with Serbia on normalisation of relations between the two countries (bne.eu, DE, 11/9).

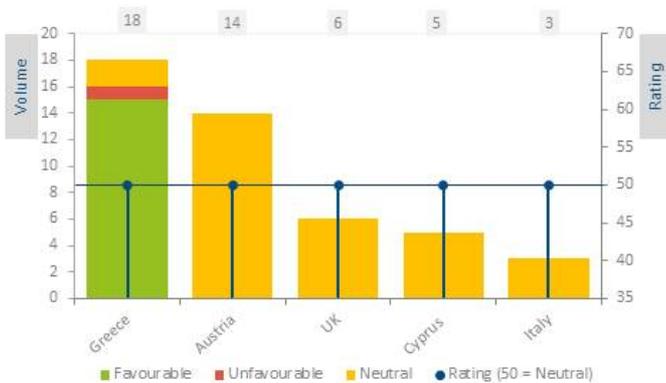
- bne.eu, DE, 11/9, <http://www.bne.eu/content/story/kosovo-opposition-parties-force-thaci-out>

Charts

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| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Volume | 51 items |
| Rating | 51.5 |
| Favourable % | 31.4% |
| Unfavourable % | 1.9% |
| Neutral % | 66.7% |

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

| ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources | Number of mentions |
|--|--------------------|
| Jean-Claude Juncker (President-elect, EC) | 24 |
| Johannes Hahn (Regional Policy Commissioner, EC) | 13 |
| Sebastian Kurz (Foreign Minister, Austria) | 4 |
| Recep Tayyip Erdoğan (President, Turkey) | 2 |

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