



## Key Quotes

***“European Union must not forget that the Balkan is part of Europe and that by delaying expansion, it causes problems in its territory. It’s necessary to integrate all the countries of Western Balkan in the European Union. Ladies and gentlemen, there’s no point for further delays in the European and European Atlantic incentives now. Our region is as sensitive as Europe is”***, declared president of former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia George Ivanov at the Security Council (balkaneu.com, GR, 25/9). <http://www.balkaneu.com/resolution-respected-fyroms-president/#sthash.Lie43spz.dpuf>

## Summary

### EU-Turkey Customs Union agreement

World Bank Turkey Director Martin Raiser has called on Turkey and the EU to cooperate more closely to solve problems in the EU-Turkey Customs Union agreement, which is seen as one of the largest obstacles to Turkey’s economic integration with the EU. *“While the best solution would be moving forward with the accession negotiations, other practical steps could be taken in the meantime to reduce the impact of asymmetries such as establishing working groups”* Raiser said. *“Well-managed parallel track negotiations mirroring the main EU negotiations that aim to start and conclude at the same time could help resolve the problem”* added Raiser, speaking at the Turkey-EU Customs Union panel held by the European Union and the Ankara-based think tank Global Research Association, which conducts research on Turkey’s harmonization with EU principles and policies (Balkans.com, UK, 25/9).

- Balkans.com, UK, 25/9, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=197264>

### Meeting between the foreign ministers of Bulgaria and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Bulgaria’s caretaker Foreign Minister Daniel Mitov has met with his counterpart from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Nikola Poposki, during the General Debate at the 69th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York. The two discussed bilateral cooperation and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia’s European and Euro-Atlantic prospects. Mitov and Poposki exchanged views on the plans to extend expert talks on the Good Neighbourhood and Co-operation Pact, with the next meeting of the working groups from both foreign ministries is to be held in the autumn of 2014 (Novinite.com, BG, 25/9).

- Novinite.com, BG, 25/9, [http://www.novinite.com/view\\_news.php?id=163602](http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=163602)

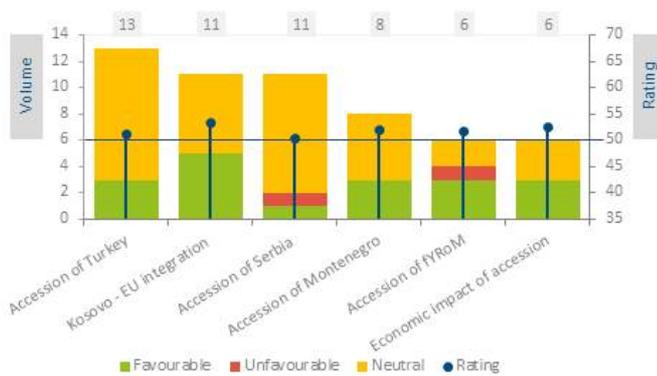
### The European Union opens its doors to Serbia

Despite a number of challenges still to be solved, such as the question of Kosovo, regarded by Serbia as an *“autonomous province”*, Belgrade seems to be getting closer and closer to Brussels. The outgoing European Commissioner for Enlargement Štefan Füle said that there is the possibility that Serbia could open by the end of this year the first two chapters as part of the EU accession process. *“I think it can be done by the end of this year”* said Füle (ilgarantista.it, IT, 25/9).

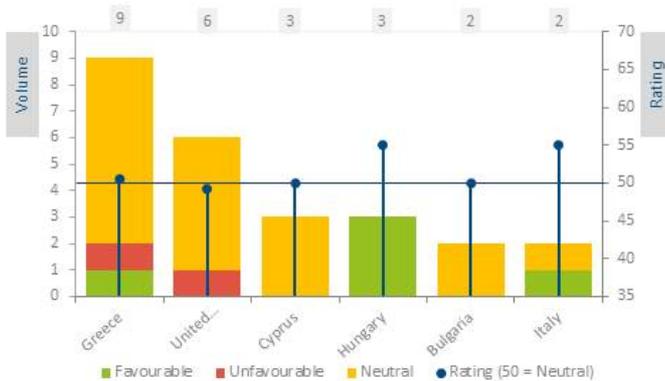
- ilgarantista.it, IT, 25/9, <http://ilgarantista.it/2014/09/25/lunione-europea-apre-alla-serbia/>

# Charts

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



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



Copyright © Ebiquty plc 2014

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

Volume	28 items
Rating	50.4
Favourable %	17.9%
Unfavourable %	7.1%
Neutral %	75%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Enis Imamovic - Politician Serbia	4
Mikuláš Dzurinda - President Centre for European Studies	3
Štefan Füle	3
Aleksandar Vučić - Serbia PM	2
Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu - Turkey FM	2
Nikola Poposki – former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia FM	2
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	2
Damian Todd - British High Commissioner Cyprus	2

**Disclaimer: The access to this press report is restricted to European Commission staff. It should not be forwarded or circulated.**