



Key Quotes

Hundreds of gay rights activists in Serbia held their first Pride march in four years, walking through Belgrade streets emptied of traffic and pedestrians by a massive security operation. Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić, a former ultranationalist who has rebranded himself as a pro-Western reformer, told a news conference after the march: **"We didn't do this because of the EU, but out of respect for the constitution, the law and respect for all, regardless of how hard it might be or how far it might conflict with our own personal views"** (independent.co.uk, UK, 28/9). <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/postcard-from-belgrade-9761134.html>

Summary

Tension in Kosovo

Visar Ymeri, an MP from Self-Determination Movement in the Kosovo parliament, said that there would be no talks with Belgrade until Serbia recognised Kosovo's independence. Speaking on Kosovo's KTV television, Ymeri said that the Movement will continue holding firm to the post-election coalition with the Alliance for the future of Kosovo and the Initiative for Kosovo, but the negotiations with Belgrade would not be renewed until Serbia recognised Kosovo. He called the Democratic Party of Kosovo to accept the reality that despite the elections victory it did not have a majority in the parliament (focus-news.net, BG, 26/9). Meanwhile Representatives of opposition parties in Kosovo have held a meeting with representatives of non-Serb communities in Kosovo, where they said that they will respect the agreement to govern the country for the next four years. Leader of the Democratic League of Kosovo, Isa Mustafa said that the opposition bloc is determined to take its project forward (balkaneu.com, GR, 25/9).

- focus-news.net, BG, 26/9, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/09/26/349530/b92-belgrade-pristina-dialogue-to-be-renewed-only-if-serbia-recognises-kosovo-says-mp.html>
- balkaneu.com, GR, 25/9, <http://www.balkaneu.com/mustafa-continue-respect-agreement-joint-governing/>

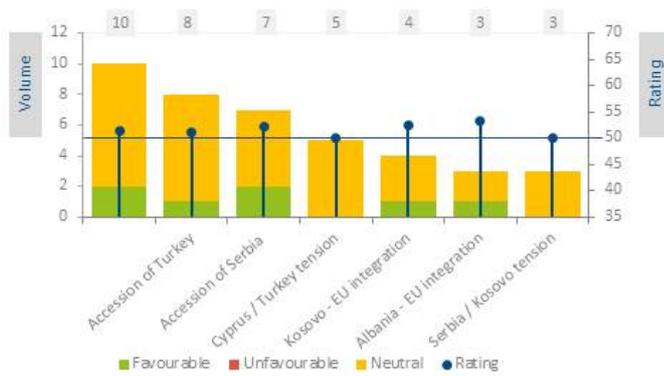
Enlargement statement populist

To those who oppose further European Union expansion to the western Balkans, the statement in July by Jean-Claude Juncker, the new European Commission president, was heartening. Negotiations would continue, he said, but *"no further enlargement will take place over the next five years."* The political message seemed to be that the whole process was being slowed down. The statement was *"controversial and populist"* says Štefan Füle, the outgoing enlargement commissioner, because no Balkan country would have been ready to join in the next five years. *"It was a wrong message to the western Balkans at a wrong time"* (economist.com, UK, 26/9).

- economist.com, UK, 26/9, <http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21620264-door-membership-remains-open-region-must-do-more-get-it-queue>

Charts

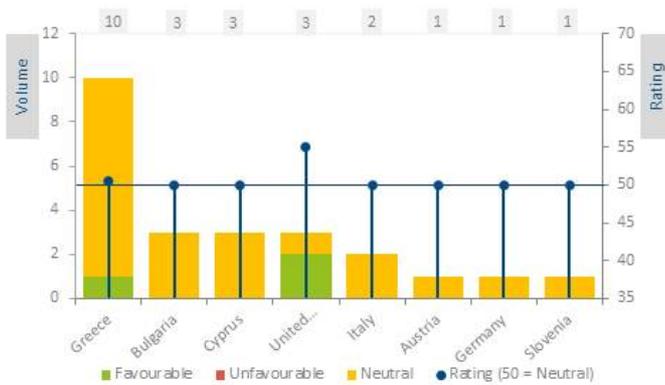
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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	No of mentions
Aleksandar Vučić - PM Serbia	3
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	2

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