



Summary

Turkey's president, Abdullah Gül has identified the country's troubled attempt to join the EU as the cause of its success over the past decade, urging Ankara to redouble efforts to join, in stark contrast to the approach of the country's prime minister. Mr Gül said despite difficulties with negotiations in Brussels, the country's efforts to join the bloc were the root cause of the political stability and economic growth it has enjoyed. Sinan Ülgen, a former Turkish diplomat now at Carnegie Europe, a think-tank, said Mr Gül was signalling an agenda that was much more EU-focused and conciliatory than Mr Erdogan's (Financial-Times-UK, UK, 14/11). "If you look at the totality of these reforms that have been enacted in the last 10 years they are an adaptation of the EU *acquis*," Gül said. "We should not stop here. We have to carry forward the reforms" (protothema.gr, EL, 14/11).

- Financial-Times-UK, UK, 14/11, (no link available)
- protothema.gr, EL, 14/11, <http://www.protothema.gr/world/article/?aid=236396>

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, two of the country's most powerful politicians reached agreement on a number of important issues concerning the judiciary, elections, energy, the central bank, civil service and the C5 transport corridor. While promoting economic development and rationalising Bosnia's cumbersome public administration, the agreement provoked a sharp reaction from those who felt it further undermined the cohesiveness of the Bosnian state. "Our concerns are compatibility with EU criteria; respect for the constitution; respect for international agreements; and the specific challenges faced by [Bosnia] as a country with an EU membership perspective," commented Jamila Milovic-Halilovic, a spokesperson for the EU Special Representative in Bosnia (bne.eu, UK, 14/11). On a different note Bosnia and Herzegovina received a final warning that it must take measures to prevent the influx of false asylum seekers in countries of the Union (sta.si, SI, 13/11).

- bne.eu, UK, 14/11, http://www.bne.eu/story4228/Surprising_concensus_in_Bosnia
- sta.si, SI, 13/11, <http://sta.si/vest.php?s=s&id=1820527>

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon encouraged Belgrade and Pristina to continue the dialogue with the EU mediation and stick firm to the agreements already made, Serbian Beta news agency reported. "I am happy with the continuation of the dialogue and I hope there will be a push for gradual and steady normalisation of the relations and making peace," a report of the UN Secretary General says (focus-fen.net, BG, 13/11). Tomislav Nikolic, the Serbian President said "Serbia in 12 years has never said it is prepared to accept the independence of Kosovo" adding "and if the European Union says to recognise Kosovo, we will say that we do not want European membership. I hope that this does not happen" (premier.mtv.hu, HU, 14/11).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 13/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n292140>
- premier.mtv.hu, HU, 14/11, http://premier.mtv.hu/Hirek/2012/11/14/09/Exkluziv_interju_Tomislav_Nikolic_szerb_allamfovel.aspx

Právo daily ran an interview with Croatia's Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Vesna Pusić, focusing mainly on Croatia's process of EU accession. She points out that Croatia was the only country acceding to the EU which was asked about its policy towards its neighbouring countries. According to her, Croatia is aware that it is impossible to ensure stability in the country without ensuring stability in the whole region. That is why Croatia has already started training public officials in Bosnia and Montenegro and extended its cooperation with Serbia. Ms Pusić adds she does not expect any Schengen accession complications.

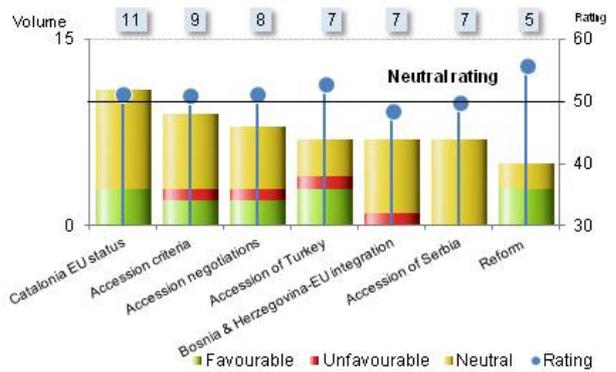
- Pravo, CZ, 14/11 http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121114/mi/item_139921677.pdf

Key Quotes

Dnevnik, Macedonia: Matthew Nimitz schedules new talks on the Greek-Macedonian name issue (Focus News, Bulgaria, 15/11)
<http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n292291>

Charts

ELARG: **Leading Daily Issues**
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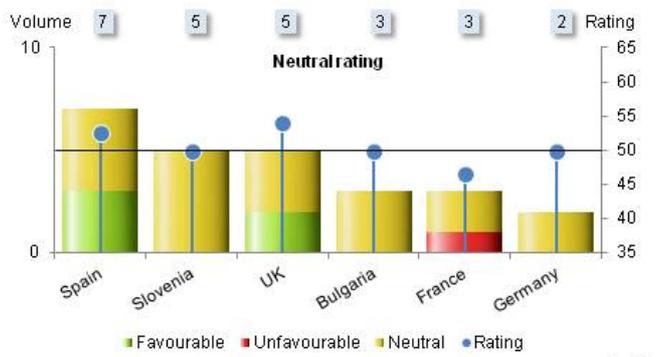


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by volume, favourability & rating

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Volume | 30 items |
| Rating | 51.2 |
| Favourable % | 20% |
| Unfavourable % | 3.3% |
| Neutral % | 76.7% |

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by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
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| ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources | Number of mentions |
|--|--------------------|
| Recep Tayip Erdoğan (Prime Minister, Turkey) | 6 |
| José Manuel Barroso (President, European Commission) | 4 |
| Artur Mas (President of the Generalitat de Catalunya) | 3 |
| Abdullah Gül (President, Turkey) | 3 |
| Sinan Ülgen (Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) | 2 |