



Key Quotes

European Commissioner for Enlargement, Štefan Füle, stressed the importance of political dialogue in Albania in order to join the European Union (EU) and invited the Democratic Party (PD) to return to the Albanian Parliament. **"Abandoning parliament and the holding of political battle on the streets is not a European way and this action doesn't help Albania in its ambition to be integrated,"** Füle said (abc.es, ES, 29/9). <http://www.abc.es/agencias/noticia.asp?noticia=1680551>

Summary

Pre-accession funding

Turkey and Serbia will receive the largest share of over €11bn allocated by the European Union to support reforms in pre-accession countries in Southeast Europe. The funding allocation for Bosnia and Herzegovina will be announced later this year, with the EC citing "a lack of the necessary coordination structures country-wide" as the cause of the delay. "This renewed assistance is very good news for the enlargement region. It will help support those countries with a European perspective to implement reforms that will directly impact citizens, help them move forward on their path to the EU and build bridges with their neighbours" said European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle (bne.eu, UK, 29/9). However Europeonline-magazine (UK, 29/9) reported that Turkey is experiencing a worrying rollback on human rights, including suppression of political opposition and the media. Efforts to hamper a series of corruption investigations into top ranking officials has led to damage to the judiciary's independence and also weakened the rule of law.

- Europeonline-magazine, UK, 29/9, http://en.europeonline-magazine.eu/rights-group-turkey-suffering-human-rights-rollback_357256.html
- bne.eu, UK, 29/9, http://www.bne.eu/content/southeast-europe-daily/bnesoutheast-europe-daily-list#story_428331

Gay people in Serbia march in Belgrade

The LGBTI community was able to walk and celebrate along a two-kilometre stretch in the nation's capital without incident. Reports say up to 1 500 people joined the pride event which was flanked by several thousand anti-riot police. "It is a milestone in the modern history of democratic Serbia" said Štefan Füle EU Enlargement Commissioner. Belgrade's decision to allow the parade on Sunday is seen by some as a tactic to help ease its accession negotiations with the European Union (europa-nu.nl, NL, 29/9). A number of small incidents were reported, but nothing on the scale of 2010 when shops were trashed, buses set ablaze and dozens of police officers and rioters were injured. An opponent standing at the edge of the police cordon, who gave his name as Mihailo said "It's shameful that we should block the capital to allow a few hundred individuals to demonstrate their perverted ideas" (EurActiv.com, UK, 29/9).

- europa-nu.nl, NL, 29/9, http://www.europa-nu.nl/id/vjnlc9qqmfzi/nieuws/belgrade_gay_pride_a_milestone?ctx=vhsjhdftknpb&s0e=vhdubxdwqzrw
- EurActiv.com, UK, 29/9, <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/enlargement/eu-welcomes-peaceful-gay-pride-parade-belgrade-308762>

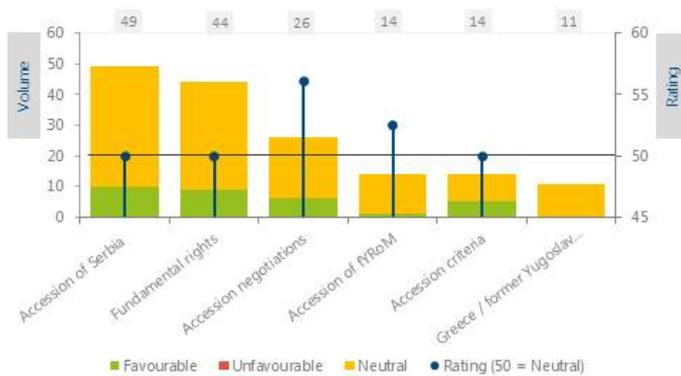
South Stream pipeline

While the EU is still blocking plans to build the South Stream pipeline, construction outside the EU is due to forge ahead this autumn. There are plans to start building both the section of the pipeline across Serbia, and part of the offshore section linking Russia to Bulgaria within the next two months. Since Serbia is not yet an EU member state, its government is not bound by the EU decision to halt work on the project in protest against Russia's annexation of the Crimea (bne.eu, UK, 29/9).

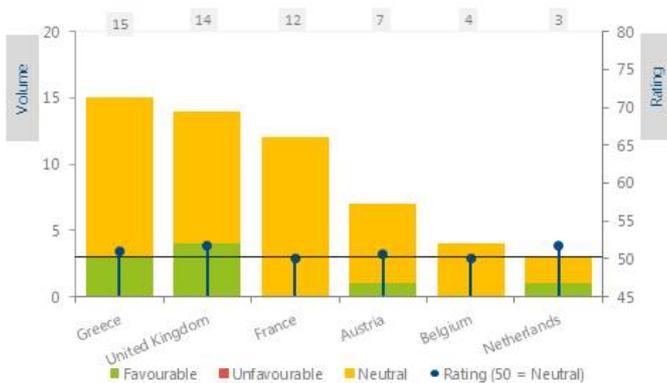
- bne.eu, UK, 29/9, <http://www.bne.eu/content/story/serbia-start-south-stream-construction-november>

Charts

ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: Highlights
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	68 items
Rating	51
Favourable %	16.2%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	83.8%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Aleksandar Vučić - PM Serbia	33
Michael Davenport - EU envoy to Serbia	25
Patriarch Irinej - Serbia	16
Tanja Miscevic - Serbia's chief negotiator for EU membership	15
Evangelos Venizelos - Greek FM	11
Nikola Poposki - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia FM	11
Matthew Nimetz - UN envoy to Macedonia	9

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