

## Key Quotes

Nationalists with opposing views of Bosnia and Herzegovina's future secured the most votes in this month's general election, but none will be able to rule alone, raising the prospect of lengthy power-sharing talks and new delays in long-overdue reforms. Analysts said there was little chance for a stable government that would move the Balkan country towards the European Union and revive its economy. **"Theoretically, they could"** form new governments, said Kurt Bassuener, senior associate at the Democratization Policy Council, a think-tank. **"But I see no evidence in the past behaviour or judging by their interests that they would initiate meaningful reform."** ([uk.reuters.com](http://uk.reuters.com), UK, 27/10)

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/10/27/uk-bosnia-election-idUKKBN0IG1SB20141027>

## Summary

### EU's door must be kept open

In a signed editorial in Nerikes Allehanda (SE, 27/10), MEP Olle Ludvigsson writes that the choice the countries in the Western Balkans have made to commit to the EU model of building open modern and fully democratic societies is courageous strong and incredibly important. Unfortunately it receives little attention. Getting closer to Europe is decisive for these countries to come to grips with unemployment, poverty and corruption. The EU's enlargement to include countries like Serbia has been questioned by among others Jean-Claude Juncker. He should not have said that there will be no new EU members in the next five years. It sends the wrong signal.

Nerikes Allehanda, SE, 27/10, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141027/mi/item\\_219829822.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141027/mi/item_219829822.pdf)

### Reform in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is preparing an action plan on reforms in line with the recommendations in the report of the European Commission on its progress. Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski announced the news, as cited by Dnevnik's online news edition. According to Gruevski, each minister will analyse the report in his or her field and the recommendations in the document. *"I expect the ministers to make proposals over the next 10 days, which will be put into a common document – an action plan"* Gruevski said (focus-news.net, BG, 27/10). Meanwhile Matthew Nimetz, the UN Special Representative for the naming dispute between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, has not made any new proposal on the settlement of the argument. Farhan Haq, Nimetz's spokesperson, made the comment, cited by the Macedonian National Television (MTV). The spokesperson said Nimetz would not comment on speculation in the media that he had made a new proposal on the name of Macedonia [sic] (focus-news.net, BG, 27/10).

- focus-news.net, BG, 27/10, <http://focus-fen.net/news/2014/10/27/352625/dnevnik-macedonia-govt-in-preparation-of-action-plan-in-line-with-recommendations-in-ec-report-says-pm.html>
- focus-news.net, BG, 27/10, <http://focus-fen.net/news/2014/10/27/352606/macedonia-matthew-nimetz-hasnt-made-new-proposal-on-settlement-of-naming-dispute-un-says.html>

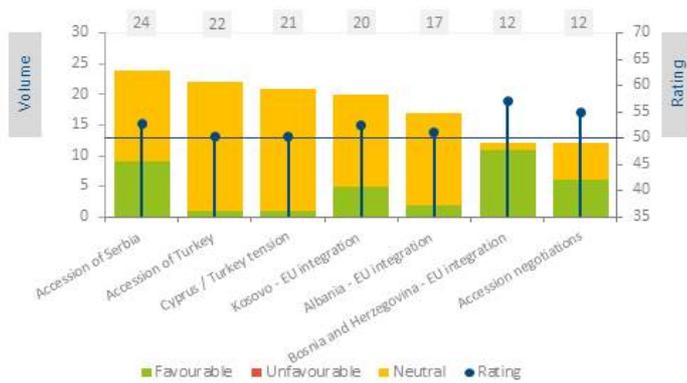
### Corruption in Albania

More than two thirds of Albanian citizens see corruption as one of the biggest barriers in the acceleration of economic and social development and European integration of the country. Other big challenges are unemployment, crime and insufficient household incomes. Albanian governments of the left and right, have been constantly engaged in a process of anti-corruption reforms. During 2014, the Albanian Centre for Economic Research in cooperation with House of Europe and the Albanian Social Economic Trust have participated in SELDI-South-eastern European Leadership for Development and Integrity meetings. This is an incentive backed by the European Union which is focused on the problems of Good Governance and Anti-Corruption in Southeast Europe (balkaneu.com, GR, 27/10)

- balkaneu.com, GR, 27/10, <http://www.balkaneu.com/kosovos-president-dilemma-visiting-belgrade/>

# Charts

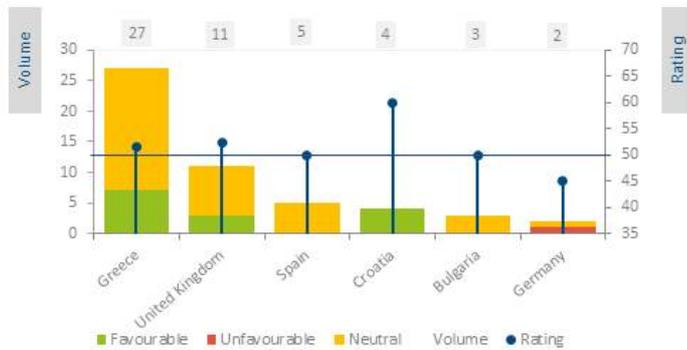
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| Edi Rama - Albania PM                 | 7                  |
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| Tanja Fajon - MEP                     | 4                  |
| Tonino Picula - MEP                   | 4                  |
| Štefan Füle - Enlargement             | 3                  |

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