



## Key Quotes

Barroso says “adeus” after 10 years. José Manuel Barroso particularly praised the process of enlargement he led during the last 10 years, calling it *“one of the greatest achievements in European history”*. Since 2004, 13 countries have joined the Union. *“Imagine those countries had not joined the EU when they did. In that case, probably we would not only be discussing about Ukraine. We would probably be discussing now about Bulgaria or the Baltic States so it was the right thing to do,”* Barroso added (euractiv.com, BE, 29/10) <http://www.euractiv.com/video/barroso-says-adeus-after-10-years-309602>

## Summary

### Reform in Montenegro

Local and regional leaders from the EU and Montenegro have declared their commitment to continuing to drive forward reform as part of the ongoing accession negotiations. Despite the European Commission suggesting that there would be no further countries joining the EU over the next five years, the leaders – who make up the Joint Consultative Committee hailed the progress of reform and called for further funds to be invested locally to further stimulate change. The JCC gathered local and regional authority leaders from the EU’s Committee of the Regions and Montenegro as part of the preparations for the country’s EU accession (Balkans.com, UK, 29/10).

- Balkans.com, UK, 29/10, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=198185>

### Slovenian, Albanian Cooperation

The Presidents of Slovenia and Albania reiterated on Tuesday their desire to upgrade bilateral economic cooperation on the basis of good relationships between the two countries. In talks with his Albanian counterpart Bujar Nishani, the Slovenian President, Borut Pahor, said that there is great potential in Slovenia-Albania trade when the two countries enjoy excellent relations. Both Slovenia and Albania are NATO Members. Slovenia, the first Balkan country to join the European Union, supports Albanian efforts for EU membership. Currently, trade between Slovenia and Albania remains rather modest, with the latter ranking 61st place among the former’s trade partners in terms of the volume of traded goods (Neurope.eu, BE, 29/10).

- Neurope.eu, BE, 29/10, <http://www.neurope.eu/news/wire/slovenian-albania-beef-business-cooperation>

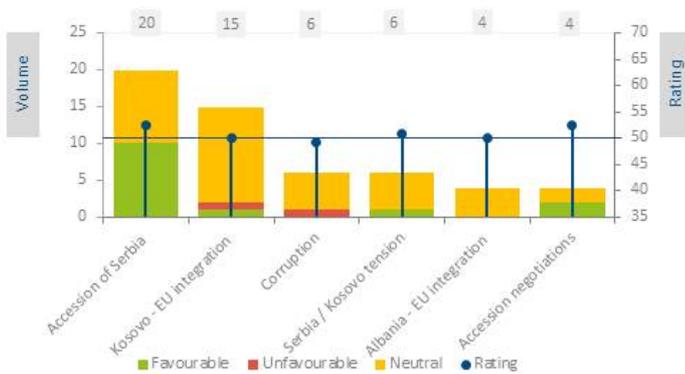
### Kosovo’s problems of governance

Kosovo has one of the most decentralised unitary governments in the world, with highly conflicted understandings over the nature of power-sharing. The paradox of conflict resolution in deeply divided societies is that it almost always creates new problems while attempting to solve old ones. The decision to grant Kosovo independence partially addressed Albanian national aspirations but created a restless Serbian community that necessitated a complicated peace settlement that risks weakening long term state cohesiveness and future prospects of a shared community. Under the plan for Kosovo’s statehood devised by UN Special Envoy Maarti Ahtisaari, power is decentralised to municipal level, with a number of “enhanced competencies” given to ten Serb-dominant municipalities, to keep Pristina’s authority at a distance. In addition to having control over local economic development, education, healthcare, cultural sites and urban planning Kosovo’s Serbs are allowed to retain close ties with Serbia which would continue to provide financial support, state pensions, supplemental salaries and voting rights. (Opendemocracy.net, UK, 29/10).

- Opendemocracy.net, UK, 29/10, <https://www.opendemocracy.net/michael-rossi/autonomy-and-powersharing-in-kosovo>

# 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, overall rating and percentage favourability

Volume	37 items
Rating	51.5
Favourable %	29.7%
Unfavourable %	2.7%
Neutral %	67.6%

ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Slobodan Milošević - Former Serbian and Yugoslav President	12
Maja Kocijančič - Spokesperson for Ashton	5
Borut Pahor - Slovenian President	4
Bujar Nishani - President Albania	4
Vladimir Putin - Russian President	2
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan – Turkish President	2
Hashim Thaçi - Prime Minister Kosovo	2
Aleksandar Vučić - Prime Minister Serbia	2

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