



## Key Quotes

The European Union mission in Kosovo, meant to help the state develop its justice system, urged Kosovars on Thursday not to lose trust over allegations at least two senior staff took bribes to drop criminal charges. ***"We deserve to be trusted,"*** EULEX chief Gabriele Meucci told a news conference. ***"Allegations of corruption are being thoroughly investigated... If we have allegations of some wrong going on, we are acting, and we don't just sit and wait and look."*** (euronews.com, FR, 30/10)

<http://www.euronews.com/newswires/2766682-trust-us-eu-asks-kosovo-amid-corruption-probe/>

## Summary

**We're not asking for mercy, but to reform Serbia** (Ise.ac.uk, UK, 29/10)

Serbia is not attempting to balance EU ambitions with close ties with Russia, Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić told bne (UK, 30/10) indicating he would toe the Western line when it comes to issues like halting the Russian-led South Stream gas pipeline. Vučić strongly implied that Serbia would not progress Gazprom's controversial South Stream gas pipeline through the Balkans without EU consent, even though, he admitted it might take eight years for Serbia to achieve EU membership. Vučić was speaking after signing a deal with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to launch an initiative intended to improve Serbia's business climate. Earlier, he had addressed a conference in Westminster, pledging to lower barriers to business and push forward reforms entailing thousands of job losses and calling for British businesses to invest in Serbia. But two weeks earlier, Vučić had welcomed Russian President Vladimir Putin to Belgrade with great fanfare and reiterated that Serbia would not impose sanctions on Russia over the conflict in Ukraine.

- Ise.ac.uk, UK, 29/10, <http://blogs.ise.ac.uk/isee/2014/10/29/interview-with-aleksandar-vucic-were-not-asking-for-mercy-but-reforming-serbia/>
- bne.eu, UK, 30/10, <http://www.bne.eu/content/story/serbia-not-balancing-eu-and-russia-vucic-tells-bne>

**Serbian teachers and doctors announce strikes over pay cuts** (Yahoo!, UK, 30/10)

Health workers and teachers in Serbia announced on Thursday they would strike next month in the first real sign of resistance to wage and pension cuts introduced by the government to try to stabilise the budget. The government says the cuts, set to take effect on Nov. 1 are needed to bolster Serbia's finances after years of rising debt and deficit levels that the International Monetary Fund says are no longer sustainable. The country begins negotiations with the IMF next week on a new precautionary loan deal that it hopes to clinch by the end of the year. It risks a winter of industrial action however. The threats of industrial action come on top of a strike now in its 10th week, by lawyers (uk.reuters.com, UK, 30/10).

- Yahoo!, UK, 30/10, <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/serbian-teachers-doctors-announce-strikes-over-pay-cuts-105350668--business.html>
- uk.reuters.com, UK, 30/10, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/10/30/uk-serbia-cuts-strike-idUKKBN0I15A20141030>

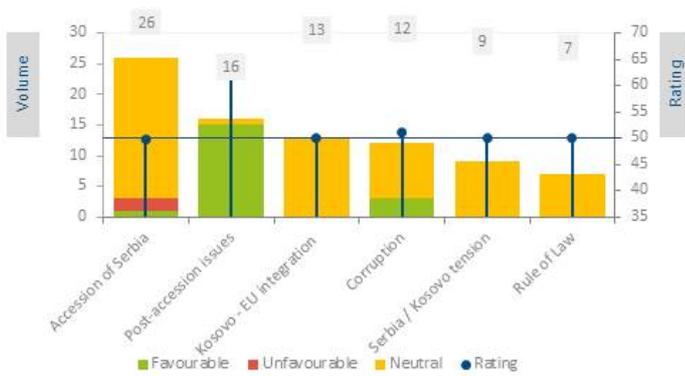
**EU problems do not come from the new Member States such as Bulgaria** (Trud, BG, 30/10)

Outgoing President José Manuel Barroso said *"It was the right thing to do. Of course it was not perfect. But let me tell you very frankly – the problems we have in Europe were they because of Bulgaria and Romania? Of course not"* adding that there were older member states that make decision-making much more difficult than the new Member States. He also said that decision-making with 28 worked in spite of pessimistic forecasts that the enlargement would make the process unworkable (Ziarul Financiar, RO, 30/10).

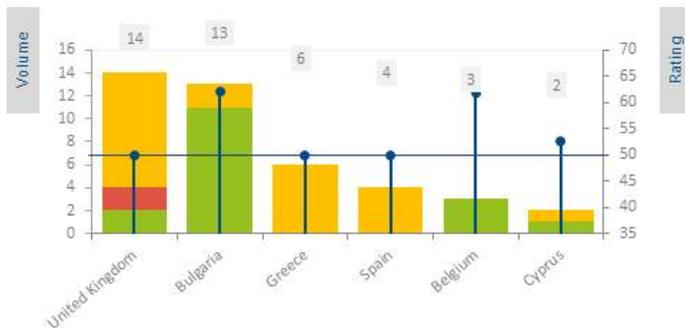
- Trud, BG, 30/10, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141030/mi/item\\_220298853.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141030/mi/item_220298853.pdf)
- Ziarul Financiar, RO, 30/10, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141030/mi/item\\_220295811.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141030/mi/item_220295811.pdf)

# Charts

ELARG: **Leading Daily Issues**  
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: **Leading Daily Countries**  
by volume, favourability & rating



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ELARG: **Highlights**  
by volume, overall rating and percentage favourability

Volume	49 items
Rating	54.7
Favourable %	40.8%
Unfavourable %	4.1%
Neutral %	55.1%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
José Manuel Barroso - President	21
Slobodan Milošević - Former Serb President	11
Catherine Ashton (VP)	6
Aleksandar Vučić - PM Serbia	4
Vladimir Putin - Russian President	3
Jean-Claude Juncker - President-elect EC	2
Alfred Gusenbauer - ex Austrian Chancellor	2

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