



Key Quotes

Speaking to Reuters, Foreign Minister of Albania Ditmir Bushati said he thought Albania would be ready to join the European Union in 10 years but voiced concern at the anti-enlargement rhetoric now coming from some EU leaders. **"I think that Albania would be ready in a decade to join the EU but it is very important to ensure at the same time that there is a political appetite in the EU to have Albania and other western Balkans on board..."**, said Bushati. **"It takes two to tango."** (uk.reuters.com, UK, 3/11).

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/11/03/uk-albania-serbia-foreignminister-idUKKBN0IN1VO20141103>

Summary

Turkey's President visits Paris

During a visit to Paris on Friday by Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan during which he met his counterpart, François Hollande, the talks centred mainly on Syria. However the two heads of state also discussed Turkey's bid to join the European Union, now becalmed, with only one chapter closed out of the thirty five. *"It is not about whether Turkey will join but whether this is possible and it will only be possible if there are negotiations"* said François Hollande (Les Echos, FR, 3/10).

- Les Echos, FR, 3/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141103/mi/item_220793015.pdf

Kosovo mired in its worst political crisis since independence;

Almost five months after the elections in June Kosovo is in crisis, a crisis which is testing the process of normalisation with Belgrade. Now the political crisis in Kosovo has had added to it a scandal that besmirches EULEX, including senior officials accused of corruption by a British lawyer, Maria Bamieh. This mission, set up after the proclamation of independence, was intended guide Kosovo to democracy, supporting Kosovo's legal system and to help build a state based in accordance with the law (lepoint.fr, FR, 3/10). Speaking to the press Maria Bamieh said she had presented evidence in 2012 that the former President of the Court Chamber of EULEX, Francesco Flori, had taken bribes. Last year she presented evidence of another corruption scandal (focus-news.net, BG, 3/10). The EU denies ever trying to cover up scandal, by suspending the prosecutor Maria Bameih. The EP is sceptical that EULEX is capable of conducting an independent investigation, therefore it is considering the establishment of an independent body that would do the job (Jutarnji List, HR, 3/10).

- lepoint.fr, FR, 3/11, http://www.lepoint.fr/monde/le-kosovo-enlise-dans-sa-pire-crise-politique-depuis-l-independance-03-11-2014-1878208_24.php#xtor=RSS-221
- focus-news.net, BG, 3/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/11/03/353336/dnevnik-macedonia-eulex-seized-with-corruption-says-kosovo-journalist.html>
- Jutarnji List, HR, 3/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141103/mi/item_220816742.pdf

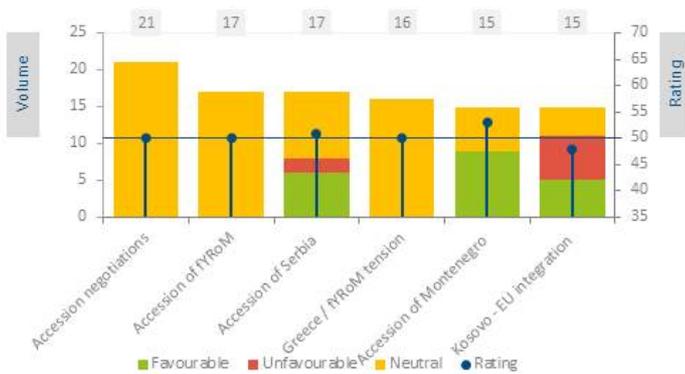
Visegrád support for the Western Balkans

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the countries of the Visegrád (V4) Group and the Western Balkans met in Slovakian capital Bratislava. They exchanged views on the Enlargement Package published by the European Commission on 8 October 2014. The V4 member states reaffirmed their support for EU and NATO enlargement as one of the main priorities of the Group, The Foreign Affairs Ministers of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia participated in the meeting. Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Péter Szijjártó said that Hungary supports the EU integration of the countries of the Western Balkans. Mr Szijjártó added that the stability of the Western Balkans is in the strategic interest of Hungary (Magyar Nemzet, HU, 3/10).

- Magyar Nemzet, HU, 3/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141103/mi/item_220799995.pdf

Charts

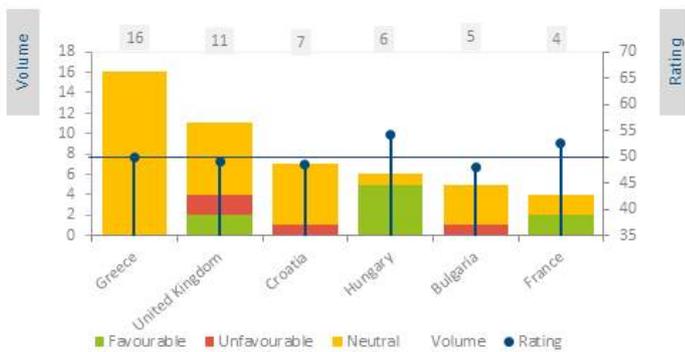
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Nikola Poposki – former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia FM	16
Matthew Nimetz - UN Envoy to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	16
Miroslav Lajčák - FM Slovakia	8
Gabriele Meucci - EULEX Kosovo	4
Maria Bamieš . EULEX Kosovo	4
Mitja Drobnič - EU mission Montenegro	3

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