



Key Quotes

UK says aspiring EU states to be even keener after Brussels reforms. Britain's foreign minister Philip Hammond told Balkan states aspiring to membership of the European Union that he admired their enthusiasm but believed it would be even greater if the EU carried out reforms that Britain wants. **"What I think is fantastic is that, having identified the need for reform and the deep flaws in the existing structure, we have a lot of candidate countries that are banging on the door, warts and all, even with all the current flaws,"** Hammond said on a panel in Berlin with foreign ministers from Western Balkan countries (uk.reuters.com, UK, 5/11).

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/11/05/uk-eu-britain-hammond-idUKKBN0IP2H920141105>

Summary

Scandal in Kosovo, Mogherini trying to control the fire

Citing leaked documents, the Kosovo daily Koha Ditore has reported that at least two employees of the EULEX mission were being investigated on suspicion of dropping criminal charges in at least three cases in return for bribes. The European Union mission in Kosovo, meant to help the state develop its justice system is the EU's biggest and most expensive. The affair threatens to undermine its goal of promoting law and order in the young country. The cases included murder and corruption involving a number of senior state officials. The mission of 1600 people deals with sensitive cases of organised crime, corruption and war crimes considered too complex or politically sensitive to be handled by local prosecutors and judges. EULEX, created in 2008 in the wake of Kosovo's declaration of independence from Serbia, also helps train justice officials in an effort to create a professional, independent judiciary free of the graft and political pressure still dogging Kosovo (EurActiv.com, BE, 5/11).

- Le Soir, BE, 5/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141105/mi/item_221157817.pdf
- EurActiv.com, BE, 5/11, <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/europes-east/eu-appoint-legal-expert-investigate-kosovo-mission-309777>

Turkey threatens suspension of customs deal

Turkey is planning to suspend its Customs Union deal with the EU if the planned Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) goes ahead in its present form Turkish European Union Minister Volkan Bozkır has said. He added that Turkey just wants one additional article "When Turkey made the deal with the EU in 1995, no article was put saying the agreements that the EU signs with other countries will not be applicable to Turkey. Such countries, therefore, export to Turkey with zero customs, as they have a free trade deal with the EU". If U.S. goods enter the Turkish market with zero customs, we may lose 3-4 percent of our GDP, amounting to some \$2.5-3 billion of trade loss. *We have been bound to the Customs Deal for years, so the EU should show the same sensitivity to our interests as we have done [to theirs]"* Bozkır said (Balkans.com, UK, 5/11).

- Balkans.com, UK, 5/11, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=198412>

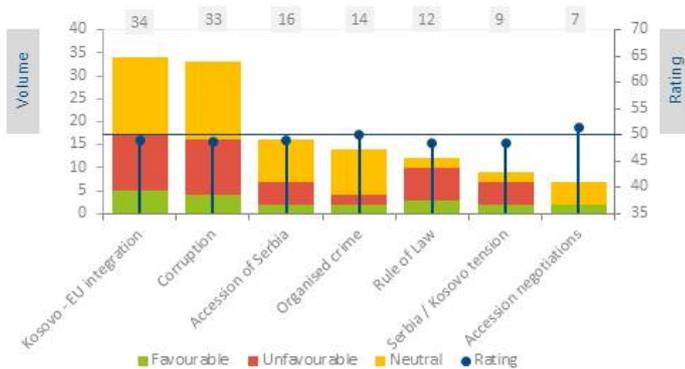
Albanian hopes for better relations with Serbia

Albania hopes next week's meeting with Serbia can draw a line under an on-pitch brawl between their national soccer teams and put efforts to heal fragile Balkan relations back on the right track, its foreign minister said on Monday. Speaking to Reuters, Ditmir Bushati also 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 (DailyMail.co.uk, UK, 4/11).

- DailyMail.co.uk, UK, 4/11, <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-2820061/With-eyes-EU-Albania-hopes-draw-line-Serbia-drone-row.html>

Charts

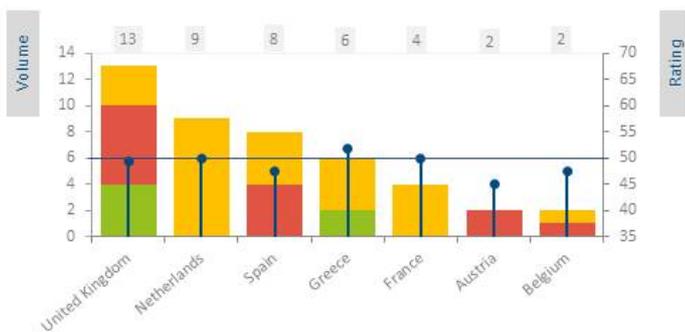
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Federica Mogherini - High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy EU	27
Elmar Brok - MEP	8
Maria Bamieh - EULEX Kosovo	8
Aleksandar Vučić - PM Serbia	5
Maja Kocijancic - Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy EU	4
Edi Rama - Albania PM	4
Ditmir Bushati - Albania Foreign Affairs	4

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