



Key Quotes

Serbia faces **'tough'** reforms but remains on track for EU membership. Speaking at a high level event in Brussels, Tanja Mišćević, who is head of the negotiating team for Serbia's EU accession, also promised that Serbia would be a **"good student"** in meeting the strict conditions for EU accession. Mišćević said, **"Not only will Serbia be the best student in school but I want us to be an 'over achiever' in meeting the membership criteria."** (theparliamentmagazine.eu, BE, 20/11).

<https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/news/serbia-faces-tough-reforms-remains-track-eu-membership>

Summary

The outlook for Turkey

There is an old saying in Turkish, *"The Turk has no friend but the Turk"* and as the country drifts towards isolation under the leadership of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the proverb is ringing uncomfortably true. During his 11 years as Prime Minister, Turkey rose in prominence. It began negotiations for European Union membership. It hugely increased its diplomatic presence, particularly in Africa. But recently something has soured. As Turkey's progress towards EU membership has stalled and enlargement fatigue has set in, the EU's leverage has weakened, heightening the sense of isolation. However Turkey is still a crucial player, the West's stepping-stone to a volatile Middle East and is a rising economy that no side can ignore (BBC, UK, 20/11). Formerly Turks wanted to be part of Europe. This was not only economically important, it was also a matter of prestige. But in recent years, this interest considerably abated. Proud Turks show that they did not need the EU. Like it or not (NRC Next, NL, 20/11).

- BBC, UK, 20/11, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-30111043>
- NRC Next, NL, 20/11, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141120/mi/item_223280527.pdf

New government for Kosovo

Kosovo's Prime Minister and main opposition leader have pledged to form a coalition government, ending five months of political fighting plagued by accusations of government corruption. President Atifete Jahjaga said Premier Hashim Thaçi's Democratic Party and Isa Mustafa's Democratic League would try to overcome a political stalemate that has threatened to send the Balkan country into bankruptcy as its MPs have been unable to vote on the budget. The deal is likely to upset other opposition parties that sided with Mr Mustafa in a bid to oust Mr Thaçi from governing the country, following allegations of high-level corruption and an international investigation into organ trafficking (talktalk.co.uk, UK, 20/11).

- talktalk.co.uk, UK, 20/11, <http://www.talktalk.co.uk/news/world/article/kosovo-leaders-in-coalition-pledge/150441/>

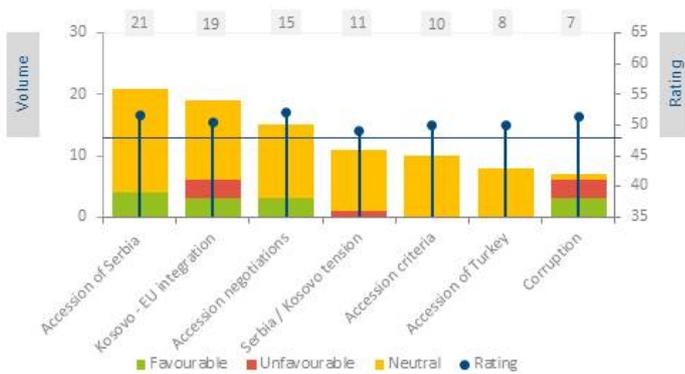
Serbia's position vis à vis Russia

EU Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said on Thursday Belgrade would have to join EU sanctions against Moscow if it wants to be part of the European Union. He said Serbia has taken a legislative commitment within the EU accession negotiations to bring its position in line with those of the EU and harmonization includes the tough issues, like the issue of sanctions against Russia, Russian agency RIA Novosti reports, citing Serbian daily Vecerne Novosti. Despite assuring Serbia that the EU understands the *"historical importance of ties between Serbia and Russia"* Hahn reminded his audience that Serbia's decision to declare for EU integration requires Belgrade to demonstrate its commitment by taking action. (Novinite.com, BG, 20/11).

- Novinite.com, BG, 20/11, <http://www.novinite.com/articles/164879/Serbia's+EU+Membership+Tied+to+Sanctions+on+Russia+-+Commissioner>

Charts

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

Volume	42 items
Rating	51.1
Favourable %	16.7%
Unfavourable %	7.1%
Neutral %	76.2%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	7
Hashim Thaçi - Kosovo PM	6
Afitete Jahjaga - President Kosovo	6
Isa Mustafa - LDK party Kosovo	6
Tanja Mišćević - EU negotiator Serbia	6
Federica Mogherini	5
Vojislav Šešelj - Serbian politician	5

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