



Summary

The conviction of the former Croatian Prime Minister Ivo Sanader was widely reported. Sanader was sentenced to 10 years in prison on Tuesday for taking bribes from two foreign companies, becoming the highest state official to be convicted of corruption in the future European Union member state. Croatia is due to join the EU in July 2013 and Sanader's conviction is likely to be seen as proof it is cracking down on corruption (uk.reuters.com, UK, 20/11). According to Lyonne (FR,20/11) also reporting on the story and how the case extended to Hungary and Austria, the fight against corruption is an area closely monitored by Brussels. Correspondents say the EU is taking a harder line with the Balkan state than with Romania and Bulgaria, which were allowed to join the bloc despite struggling to address their problems with corruption (bbc.co.uk, UK, 20/11)

- uk.reuters.com, UK, 20/11, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2012/11/20/uk-croatia-sanader-idUKBRE8AJ0FQ20121120>
- lyonne.fr, FR, 20/11, <http://www.lyonne.fr/france-monde/actualites/a-la-une/international/2012/11/20/croatie-lourde-peine-de-prison-pour-corruption-contre-l-ancien-premier-ministre-1340716.html>
- bbc.co.uk, UK, 20/11, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-20407006>

"Serbia must give up its EU path" was the headline when the President of the Opposition Democratic Party of Serbia, Vojislav Kostunica, presented his party's manifesto dubbed "Serbia is in danger" and stressed that it should give up its EU path and declare political neutrality, adding that he is convinced the majority of Serbs are opposed to the country's accession to the EU and that the path towards the EU "threatens the sovereignty, territorial integrity, economic development and the historical and cultural foundations of the Serbian people and the State" (tromaktiko.net, EL, 20/11).

- tromaktiko.net EL, 20/11, <http://www.tromaktiko.net/2012/11/20/%CE%BD%CE%B1->

In an interview for Pink TV, Serbian PM Ivica Dacic said that he does not have an interlocutor in Pristina because "Kosovo representatives do not want to talk about it, thinking that the status issue is resolved" (focus-fen.net, BG, 19/11). Meanwhile in Albania, according to Vecer, Prime Minister, Sali Berisha, said that the idea of an ethnic Albania had been born in Kosovo. According to Berisha the Albanians' goal is unification of the nation and that on the initiative of the Kosovan embassy in Albania a conference about Kosovo's role in Albania's independence took place in Tirana on Monday. Mr Berisha addressed the attendees, noting that Albanians should again examine their history which despite all the hurdles is one of the richest on the continent and that the truth and the historical facts should be known as the 100th anniversary of the country's independence is celebrated. Albania's history had been a target of frequent manipulations and, in Kosovo, of a ban, he added (focus-fen.net, BG, 20/11).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 19/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n292694>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 20/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n292782>

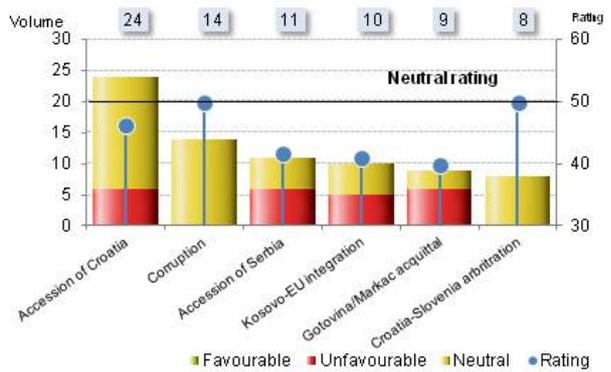
Key Quotes

Under a separate deal agreed at the time of EU enlargement, the contributions of wealthier states like Britain have also risen each year to help pay for the cost of absorbing poorer countries from the former Soviet bloc (MSN UK, 21/11).

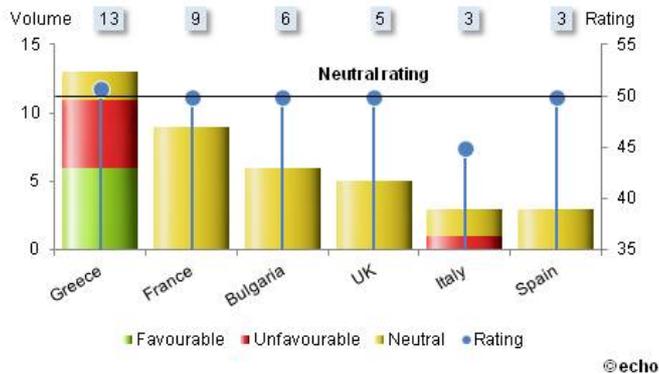
<http://news.uk.msn.com/politics/cameron-in-no-win-eu-budget-dilemma-4>

Charts

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



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

Volume	41 items
Rating	49.9
Favourable %	14.6%
Unfavourable %	14.6%
Neutral %	70.8%

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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
by volume, favourability & rating

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Ivo Sanader (former Prime Minister, Croatia)	13
Ante Gotovina (Former General, Croatia)	9
Mladen Markač (Former General, Croatia)	7
Philip Gordon (Assistant Secretary of State for European & Eurasian Affairs, US)	6
Vojislav Koštunica (Politician, Serbia)	6
Hillary Clinton (Secretary of State, US)	6
José Manuel Barroso (President, European Commission)	3

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