



Key Quotes

Whether or not the Cyprus talks resume if and when the Turkish seismic vessel Barbaros leaves the island's exclusive economic zone (EEZ) will depend how permanent its departure will be, Foreign Minister Ioannis Kasoulides said yesterday. Cyprus was not against Turkey's EU accession but that was still some way down the line, Kasoulides said. ***"In the next five years, there will not be any enlargement but even if this was not the policy of the Commission, Turkey would not enter the EU. The prospect of Turkey's accession, if it ever occurs, will be in the distant future. Our position has not changed: I would like to see a Turkey that complies with all its obligations towards the EU,"*** he said (cyprus-mail, CY, 11/12).

<http://cyprus-mail.com/2014/12/11/talks-resumption-based-on-how-and-when-barbaros-leaves-eez/>

Summary

Conditions for Serbia

The 35th chapter of the accession talks between Serbia and the European Union, which is dedicated to Kosovo, will not be closed until the country brings its Constitution in line with the Brussels Agreement writes Serbian Vecernje novosti-Belgrade daily. According to the newspaper, this makes Serbia's future membership uncertain and unclear. So far it remains uncertain whether the term Kosovo, as a constituent part of Serbia, should be precluded. According to the local experts, the biggest trap in the Berlin package is hidden in the recognition of Kosovo's independence. The paper goes on to say that the German Embassy to Belgrade refuted the existence of a list with 11 conditions set for the opening of Chapter 35. The embassy, however, confirmed that the German government will green-light the opening of the chapter only when Serbia declares readiness to continue the dialogue with Kosovo (focus-news.net, BG, 11/12).

- focus-news.net, BG, 11/12, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/12/11/357010/vecernje-novosti-belgrade-germany-wants-serbia-to-erase-kosovo-from-constitution.html>

Hungarian support for Albania

Hungary seeks to establish a major economic presence in Albania and promote its European integration, Hungary's foreign minister, Péter Szijjártó, said after talks with his Albanian counterpart Ditmir Bushati in Tirana where it was agreed that Hungary would assign experts to help the Albanian government in the EU integration process. (hungarytoday.hu, HU, 11/12). Mr. Bushati said *"We're aiming at attracting as many investments as possible and to open as many new opportunities of economic and commercial cooperation as possible with countries, which are interested in our region and to be present and cooperate with our country"*. Mr. Szijjarto said that the role of Western Balkans has grown due to changes in the global politics and economy adding for Hungary the stability of the Western Balkans has a special importance and the best way to preserve it is by continuing with the European integration perspective (balkaneu.com, GR, 11/12).

- hungarytoday.hu, HU, 11/12, <http://hungarytoday.hu/cikk/hungary-boost-economic-ties-albania-43188>
- balkaneu.com, GR, 11/12, <http://www.balkaneu.com/hungary-aims-involved-albanias-energy-railway-projects/>

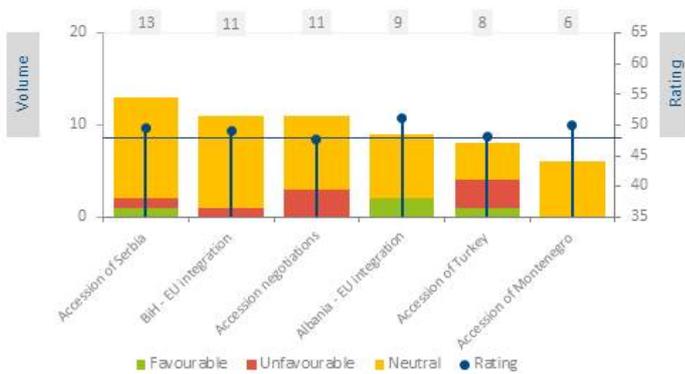
Montenegrin Prime Minister in Paris

The Prime Minister of Montenegro, Milo Đukanović, met the French President François Hollande at the Elysée Palace. After the meeting Đukanović and Hollande agreed that the region's economy is stagnating and that it is necessary for the European Union have a better investment framework to support the development of infrastructure in the region. Đukanović also met French business people to whom he presented opportunities investments in Montenegro. The Prime Minister recalled that Montenegro is still at the top of the European transitional economies when it comes to foreign direct investment. In the last decade the average share of FDI in the GDP of Montenegro was around 18.5% (balkaneu.com, GR, 11/12).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 11/12, <http://www.balkaneu.com/oland-djukanovic-european-union-support-infrastructure-projects-region/>

Charts

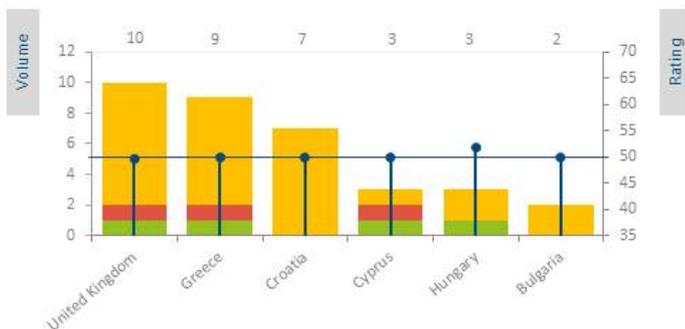
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|--|--------------------|
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| Federica Mogherini | 5 |
| Vesna Pusić - FM Croatia | 5 |
| Péter Szijjártó - Hungary FM | 4 |
| Valentin Inzko - High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, | 4 |
| Martin Schulz - EP President | 3 |
| Edi Rama - Albania PM | 3 |
| Ditmir Bushati - Albania FM | 3 |

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