



Key Quotes

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has lashed out at the European Union after it criticised the mass arrest of opposition journalists at the weekend. **"As we take such steps [as the arrests], we are not concerned about what the EU would say [or] if it accepts us or not," Mr Erdogan said in response to EU criticism that the raids violated European values. "We can lift ourselves up on our own; please keep your advice for yourself."** Ms Mogherini said she was very surprised by Mr Erdogan's remarks. **"It was members of the government that were telling that us the EU path for Turkey was not so much about economic interests as about values and principles, starting from democracy and rule of law,"** she said (ft.com, UK, 15/12). <http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/104f5ace-8462-11e4-bae9-00144feabdc0.html#axzz3M2ivPSab>

Summary

More media detainees in Turkey

Police detained the editor-in-chief of Turkey's Zaman daily Sunday, bringing the total number of people in custody to 27 in an ongoing crackdown on local media figures and police officials in 13 provinces across the country as Anadolu Agency reported. All the people detained have been alleged to be linked with the U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen and his so called Gulen movement. Hundreds of people surrounded the Zaman building when Dumanli was being taken away. They strongly condemned the police operation and termed it an attempt to muzzle the free press in the country. Istanbul (ansamed.it, IT, 15/12). Opposition leader Kamal Kılıçdaroğlu is calling it a virtual coup (Dagens Nyheter, SE, 15/12). Federica Mogherini and Enlargement Commissioner, Johannes Hahn noted that with Turkey angling to open new chapters in the enlargement talks *"any further step towards accession ... depends on the full respect for the rule of law and fundamental rights"*. They said that EU foreign ministers meeting in Brussels on Monday will discuss how to react (euobserver.com, BE, 15/12).

- ansamed.it, IT, 15/12, http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/generalnews/2014/12/15/turkey-police-detain-dozens-of-journalists-in-crackdown_23da3f4f-4005-4ef0-b009-7f79f12cc699.html
- Dagens Nyheter, SE, 15/12, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20141215/mi/item_226921651.pdf
- euobserver.com, BE, 15/12, <http://euobserver.com/news/126912>

Kosovo excluded from Balkan summit

Kosovo's PM, Isa Mustafa will not participate in the Third Chinese Economic Summit which will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday in Belgrade. This summit will see the participation of 16 prime ministers from Balkan countries. Chinese PM Li Keqiang has promised around 10 billion Euros worth of investments mainly destined for the development of infrastructure in the region. China is paying much attention to this summit, and the delegation will consist of over 100 state officials and 200 entrepreneurs. Kosovo will not be represented as China continues not to recognize independence of Kosovo and along with Russia they are two of the main countries who block its accession in the United Nations Organization (balkaneu.com, GR, 15/12).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 15/12, <http://www.balkaneu.com/kosovo-left-chinese-investments/>

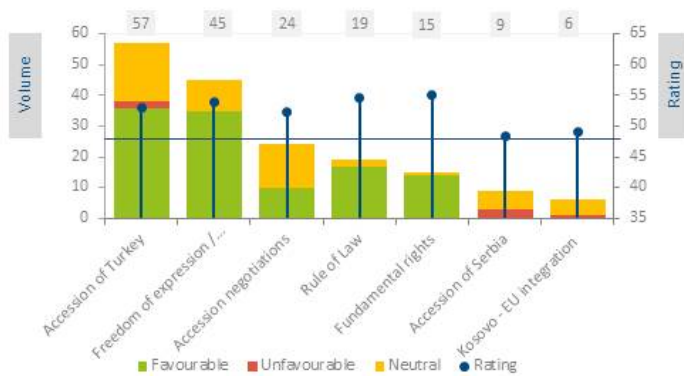
Nationalism in Serbia

After being released by The Hague, to no one's great surprise Vojislav Šešelj has now re-launched his political career. *"Our enemies are all in the European Union"* he told an audience in Belgrade calling for the overthrow of Serbia's pro-Western government. *"They are outcasts who sold their honour and character, renounced the Serb nationalism and became Western servants."* Neighbouring Croatia has had a resolution passed at the European Parliament demanding the court take him back into custody and accusing him of *"incitement to hatred"*. This reminder of Serbia's blood-soaked past comes just as Belgrade finds itself torn between a future in Europe and loyalty to its old ally, Russia (Sunday Telegraph, UK, 14/12).

- Sunday Telegraph, UK, 14/12, [Link not available]

Charts

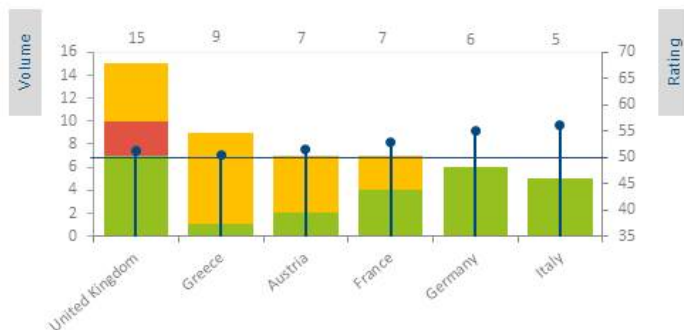
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Federica Mogherini – Foreign Affairs EU	50
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	42
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	35
Fethullah Gulen - Turkish opposition leader in US	35
Jean-Claude Juncker - President EC	9
Ahmet Davutoğlu - Turkey PM	7

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