



Key Quotes

“Tusk and Davutoğlu agree on need for Cyprus solution” The President of the European Council Donald Tusk and Turkey’s Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu have agreed on the need for a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem. **“The status quo has endured for too long. It is very important to ensure a positive climate so that the negotiations can resume”**, said President Tusk in a press statement following his meeting with Davutoğlu held at his office at the EU Council in Brussels. He also noted that he **“reaffirmed to the Prime Minister the importance the European Union attaches to relations with Turkey. Turkey is a key partner for us. Turkey’s accession process remains the main framework of our relations. On our side, we will continue to support opening new chapters when the conditions are met”**. (cyprus-mail.com, 16/1).

Summary

Turkish visit to Brussels

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmed Davutoğlu in an official visit to Brussels to discuss the opening of new chapters with European leaders. In 2014, Turkey and the EU repeatedly confirmed their desire to accelerate the negotiation process and stressed the mutual benefits of the dialogue between Brussels and Ankara. In December 2014 Federica Mogherini visited Turkey in the company of the European Commissioner for Enlargement, Johannes Hahn. Days later, however, the dialogue between the EU and Turkey was interrupted by the actions of the Erdoğan government against opposition supporters. On 15 January MEPs voted on a resolution for the protection of media freedom in Turkey. In recent months, the Turkish Minister for European Affairs Volkan Bozkir has repeatedly stated that the future of Turkey’s integration into the European Union is in the hands of Brussels. *“The opening of new chapters is no longer a problem for Turkey and is the responsibility of the EU”* said Bozkir before the visit (Dnevnik.bg, BG, 15/1).

- Dnevnik.bg, BG, 15/1, http://www.dnevnik.bg/evropa/novini_ot_es/2015/01/15/2454052_prisuediniavaneto_na_turcii_a_kum_es_e_tema_na/?ref=rs

Anglo-Croatian cooperation

British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond is to visit Croatia to discuss the future of Europe, the need to reform the European Union and the situation in the region with special emphasis on Bosnia and Herzegovina. Hammond’s arrival confirms the close relationship between London and Zagreb. Hammond, who took office six months ago and was previously Minister of Defence, will discuss the recent initiative of the EU concerning Bosnia and Herzegovina, an area which the United Kingdom and Croatia already closely cooperate on (hrt.hr, HR, 15/1).

- hrt.hr, HR, 15/1, <http://vijesti.hrt.hr/britanski-ministar-vanjskih-poslova-u-zagrebu>

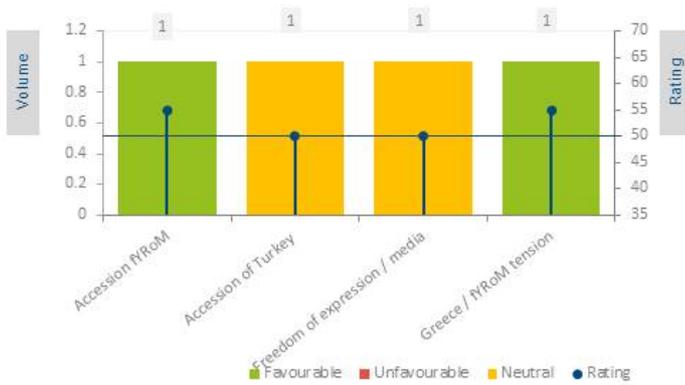
Economic future of the Balkans

The World Bank reports that in the oil-importing countries of Central and Eastern Europe the gradual strengthening of the euro area monetary measures to support recovery, and the decline in energy prices will support industrial activities and lead to export growth. In Southern and Eastern Europe, including Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia, foreign demand will remain the main driver of growth. Many countries in Central and Eastern Europe are close to deflation, because of the significant reduction of regulated energy prices and a decline in food and fuel prices, the report said. The decrease in food prices reflects higher agricultural production, especially in Bulgaria and Romania and low demand because of Russia’s ban on imports of food (Gandul.info, RO, 15/1).

- Gandul.info, RO, 15/1, http://www.gandul.info/financiar/banca-mondiala-a-redus-estimarea-de-crestere-a-economiei-romaniei-in-2015-13764201?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+gandul%2FMJcu+%28Gandul%29

Charts

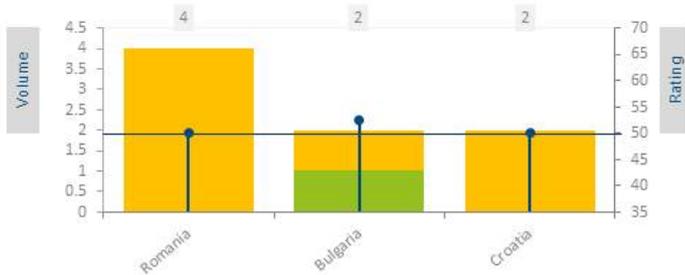
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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	2
Philip Hammond - UK FM	2
Donald Tusk – President European Council	1
Jean-Claude Juncker - President-EC	1
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	1
Ahmet Davutoğlu - Turkey PM	1

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