



Key Quotes

"The European Union is becoming impatient waiting for the politicians to agree on a statement that confirmed the commitment to reforms and thus their country's willingness for European integration," warned Maja Kocijancic, spokeswoman for EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy Federica Mogherini. Kocijancic said that Brussels now **"cannot wait"** to finally get the text of the statement that has been required for almost two months. **"We want to see the statement as soon as possible,"** said Kocijancic, recalling that it is a condition that had earlier been set by the Foreign Affairs Council of the EU to Bosnia and Herzegovina to finally launch reforms and begin to address important economic and social problems. **"The agreed text of the statement is a prerequisite for the activation of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina"**, confirmed Kocijančić. (Index.hr-HR, HR, 29/01)

<http://www.index.hr/vijesti/clanak/eu-postaje-nestrpljiva-prema-politicarima-u-bih-izjavu-zelimo-sto-prije/798072.aspx>

Summary

Anti-corruption framework for Albania

The European Delegation to Albania presented today the findings and recommendations of the EU project *"Assessment of the Anti-corruption Framework in Albania"* (ACFA), which will help the country to launch a serious process of reform, with clear, concrete and verifiable targets, essential for accountability towards all Albanian citizens. The project assessed the legal and institutional framework in place for the prevention and fight against corruption in Albania, such as access to public information, political party funding, whistle-blowing, asset declarations by public officials, conflict of interest regulation, investigation, prosecution and adjudication of corruption, and fight against corruption in the judiciary. ACFA has made a series of detailed recommendations, these include amendment of legislation on conflict of interest, asset declaration, and the law on the Prosecutor's General office. A total of 68 recommendations were made on the mechanism of governance, jurisdiction and good judicial conduct in the area of investigation, prosecution and adjudication of corruption-related offences (Balkaneu.com, GR, 29/1).

- Balkaneu.com, GR, 29/1, <http://www.balkaneu.com/eu-funded-project-sets-clear-recommendations-anti-corruption-albania/>

The grey economy in Serbia

Serbian businessmen believe that the grey economy is most noticeable in the sectors of trade and services, shows the survey into the grey economy carried out among citizens and companies. The survey was carried out by the National Alliance for Local Economic Development and USAID. Predrag Kurćubić, the director at the Ipsos Strategic Marketing agency responsible for market research, noted that around 70 percent of the companies said they operate legally noting that a switch to the grey economy most often occurs in procurement - materials and components and transport - travel expenses and fuel (Balkans.com, UK, 29/1). The auditor's report on whether the European Commission has effectively managed the use of pre-accession funds to Serbia and also how Belgrade used the EUR 1.2 billion in aid received between 2007 and 2013 said Serbia is on the right track. The MEP, Tamás Deutsch, criticising Juncker, said there is no foundation for a position of enlargement restraint (kisalfold.hu, HU, 29/1).

- Balkans.com, UK, 29/1, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=200810>
- kisalfold.hu, HU, 29/1, http://www.kisalfold.hu/belfold_hirek/deutsch_szerbia_jo_uton_halad_az_unios_elocsatlakozasi_tamogatások_felhasználásba_n/2415503/?utm_source=rssfeed

Turkey's European progress

Turkey will be ready to join the European Union within two years, claims the Turkish Minister for European Affairs Volkan Bozkir. *"Turkey will close all chapters in two years,"* said Bozkir, who also emphasized that Turkey is an important ally of the EU in the fight against terrorism. *"There can be no collective European system of security without Turkey."* (ibox.bg, BG, 28/1).

- ibox.bg, BG, 28/1, http://news.ibox.bg/news/id_1615863195

Charts

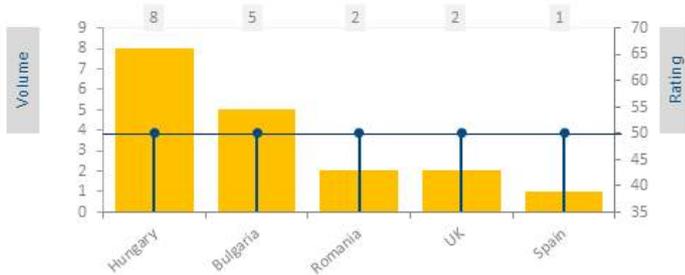
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by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Tamás Deutsch - MEP	7
Jean-Claude Juncker - President EC	7
Volkan Bozkir - Turkey European Enlargement Minister	2
Victoria Nuland - US Deputy Secretary	2

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