



Key Quotes

The International Court of Justice has rejected claims of genocide by Serbia and Croatia against each other during the Croatian war of secession from Yugoslavia. Both governments accepted the court's decision and signalled their willingness to build closer ties. **"We are not happy, but we accept the ruling in a civilised manner,"** said Zoran Milanović, Croatia's prime minister. **"It has been more than 20 years; Croatia is now a member of the European Union and can now build its future."** Dealing with the aftermath of the conflict is an important condition of Serbia's application for EU membership and Serbian president Tomislav Nikolić expressed hope on Tuesday that the rulings would help advance reconciliation. **"Serbia and Croatia will resolve everything that is an obstacle to bring the region to a period of a lasting peace and prosperity,"** he said. (Financial Times, UK, 3/2)

<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/9eb4d736-ab99-11e4-b05a-00144feab7de.html#axzz3Qkf50xZy>

Summary

Serbia prioritises a future EU membership

Serbia is being forced into a precarious balancing act during the on-going show of power between the EU and its traditional ally Russia, but with its main goal being EU membership, the country is leaning towards the European side, writes Michael Winiarski in an article in Dagens Nyheter (SE, 3/2). It was therefore logical for Aleksandar Vučić to make the first ever official visit of a Serbian prime minister to Sweden. *'I am here to discuss the partnership with the EU and what more needs to be done. At the same time we are presenting our tough economic reforms'* Mr Vučić said during his short visit to Stockholm where he met with Prime Minister Stefan Löfven and minister for foreign affairs Margot Wallström. Mr Vučić mentioned public sector pay and pension cuts as ways of taking responsibility for state finances, a very different stance to Greece which opposes demands for big public cuts.

- Dagens Nyheter, SE, 3/2, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150203/mi/item_233555650.pdf

The fight against corruption in Albania

For the Albanian government EU accession is a political and strategic objective. It's a process with powerful political and economic implications for Albanian society and which also boosts security for the country. Fighting corruption is one of the conditions that the country must meet in order to overcome this challenge. *"Albania cannot advance toward the European Union if we don't further encourage the open and comprehensive battle that we have declared against corruption. The Albanian government is engaged at all levels, in central institutions, in institutions that depend on them and independent institutions, in order to maintain the fight against corruption. Corruption distances us from Europe. In order to get closer to Europe everyone in Albania must join the fight"* says the government. (balkaneu.com, GR, 3/2)

- balkaneu.com, GR, 3/2, <http://www.balkaneu.com/ibna-op-edthe-final-slap/>

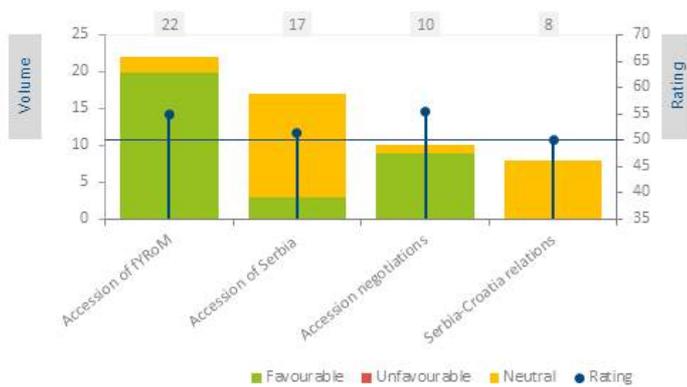
Allegations in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

EU ambassador to Skopje, Aivo Orav, said that the accusations addressed against the opposition leader, Zoran Zaev are an important test for the institutions of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. He stressed this following a meeting he had with the opposition leader, Zaev. *"I met with the opposition leader and he briefed me on what happened during the weekend. This is a case which involves the prime minister and leader of the opposition of the country and given that it's a sensitive political case, we call for caution to be shown. At the same time, we will follow this case with great attention."* said Euro ambassador Orav. (balkaneu.com, GR, 2/2)

- balkaneu.com, GR, 2/2, <http://www.balkaneu.com/process-macedonian-opposition-leader-test-institutions-country-eu-ambassador/>

Charts

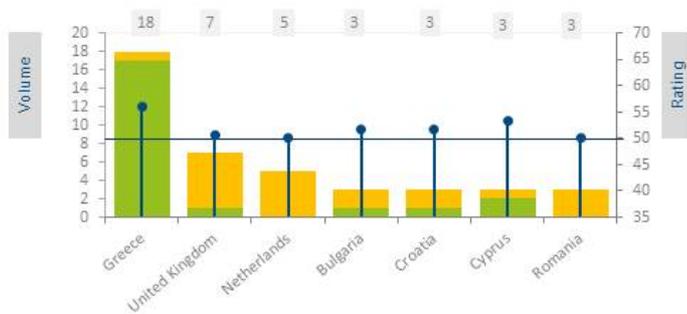
ELARG: **Leading Daily Issues**
by volume, favourability & rating



ELARG: **Highlights**
by volume, overall rating and percentage favourability

Volume	49 items
Rating	53.1
Favourable %	49%
Unfavourable %	0%
Neutral %	51%

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



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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Zoran Zaev - Opposition leader former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	14
Nikola Gruevski - FYRoM PM	12
Maja Kocijancic - EEAS spokesperson	10
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement	9
Aivo Orav - Envoy to former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	9
Bert Koenders - Netherlands FM	5
Ivica Dačić - Serbian FM	4

Copyright © Ebiquty plc 2015

Disclaimer: The access to this press report is restricted to European Commission staff. It should not be forwarded or circulated.