



Key Quotes

The head of European diplomacy, Federica Mogherini, will visit Bosnia and Herzegovina on Monday February 23. **"Bosnia and Herzegovina, – and above all its people – deserve to move closer to the European Union and get the benefits this process will bring,"** Mogherini said in a statement, explaining that the reforms will help address the fragile socio-economic situation in the country and spur jobs and investment. **"Good progress has been made so far in developing the written commitment to the EU agenda. Endorsement by the Parliament would open the way for the EU to take a decision on putting the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between us and BiH into full force,"** she added (abc.es, ES, 18/2).

<http://www.abc.es/agencias/noticia.asp?noticia=1794949>

Summary

New security bill for Turkey

Turkey's ruling party on Tuesday sought to push through parliament a contentious security bill boosting police powers to crack down on protests, with the opposition using delaying tactics to thwart the debate. The opposition fears the bill will effectively create a police state under President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and opposition lawmakers were introducing motions on unrelated issues to prevent the debate starting at a marathon midnight session in Ankara. The so-called "*homeland security reform*" bill was submitted to parliament by the ruling Islamic-rooted Justice and Development Party after deadly pro-Kurdish protests in October. "*We consider it a law that facilitates a switch to an authoritarian state*". Aykan Erdemir. A lawmaker for the opposition Republican People's Party stated. Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch, wrote on Twitter "*Turkey can't hide behind EU laws to justify its sorry record of police abuse and detention of non-violent protesters*" (Yahoo!, UK, 18/2).

- Yahoo!, UK, 18/2, <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/turkey-parliament-debate-contentious-protest-bill-163227139.html>

Belgian praise for Albania

Didier Reynders, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, praised Tuesday the reforms undertaken by the Albanian government, considering them impressive and very positive for Albania's advancement towards European Union (EU) integration, local media reported. During his visit to Albania on Tuesday, Reynders was received by Albanian foreign minister Ditmir Bushati. They discussed the prospects of Albania's EU integration, in particular the process of opening accession negotiations after receiving the candidate country status, the Albanian Daily News reported (Balkans.com, UK, 18/2).

- Balkans.com, UK, 18/2, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=201264>

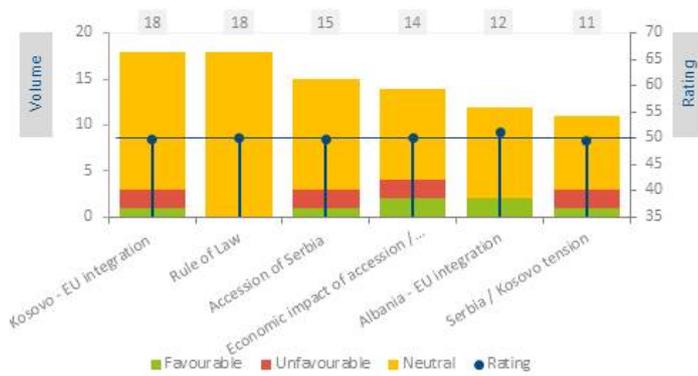
Hahn visit to former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The political situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has made the first visit of European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, more complicated. Commissioner Hahn met on Tuesday with state officials as well as with the leaders of the Social Democratic Union of Macedonia, the Democratic Union for Integration, and the Democratic Party of Albanians. The EU Commissioner did not comment after the meetings. "*We are working to find a solution in the interest of your country*" said Johannes Hahn speaking to journalists (focus-news.net, BG, 18/2). Meanwhile the Albanian parliamentary speaker, Ilir Meta, has received the leader of the Albanian Democratic Party in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Menduh Thaçi. The meeting discussed the political developments in Skopje, Tirana, Pristina and the Balkan region. Mr. Meta said that it's necessary to move forward faster not only toward the full implementation of the Ohrid Agreement but also the improvement of the economic and social life of Albanians (balkaneu.com, GR, 18/2).

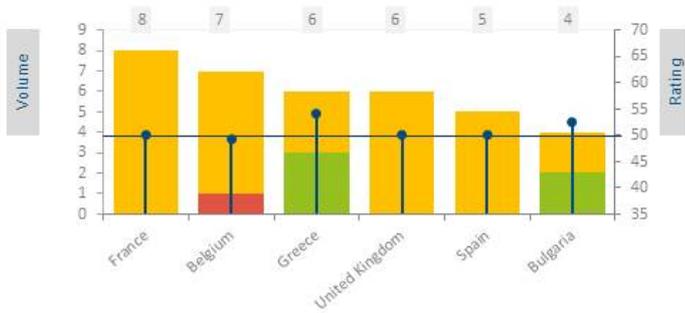
- focus-news.net, BG, 18/2, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/02/18/363559/vecer-has-eu-commissioner-hahn-solution-to-political-crisis-in-macedonia.html>
- balkaneu.com, GR, 18/2, <http://www.balkaneu.com/albanian-speaker-parliament-meets-head-albanian-opposition-fyrom/>

Charts

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



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



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

Volume	42 items
Rating	50.7
Favourable %	14.3%
Unfavourable %	4.7%
Neutral %	81%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	9
Hashim Thaçi - FM Kosovo	4
Ditmir Bushati - Albania Foreign Affairs	4
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg QUOTED	4
Dider Reynders - FM Belgium	4
Isa Mustafa - Prime Minister of Kosovo	3

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