



Summary

Croatia is well on its way towards EU accession according to Enlargement Commissioner Stefan Füle (Magyar-Hirlap, HU, 27/11). *"We want Croatia to be a success story for the benefit of its citizens, the credibility of the enlargement process and the benefit of the region, and that Croatia should be an example for other candidates in the Western Balkans"* Füle said (abc.es, ES, 26/11). He was on a visit to Zagreb to check on the fulfilment of the remaining ten commitments before the planned EU accession (Delo, SI, 27/11).

- Magyar-Hirlap, HU, 27/11, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121127/mi/item_141138846.pdf
- abc.es, ES, 26/11, <http://www.abc.es/agencias/noticia.asp?noticia=1302315>
- Delo, SI, 27/11, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121127/mi/item_141142615.pdf

On relations with Serbia Mr Füle urged Croatia and Serbia to settle their disputes over war crimes after their relations hit the lowest point since the end of the 1991-1995 conflict (focus-news.net, BG, 26/11) saying *"I believe that politicians on both sides will find a way to cool down their emotions and work to the benefit of the whole region, the benefit of reconciliation"* (focus-fen.net, BG, 27/11). In Serbia the President, Tomislav Nikolic feels that the Croatians are on the wrong path and does not see any future cooperation with a nation that celebrates its war criminals, 24ur reports. He feels it is wrong that Serbia is being held away from the EU, while Croatia is free to enter, adding that it is not right that the EU does not want to burden Croatia with this verdict of the International Court of Justice regarding General Ante Gotovina before its entry into the EU (24ur.com, SI, 27/11).

- focus-news.net, BG, 26/11, <http://www.focus-news.net/index.php?id=n1722248>
- focus-fen.net, BG, 27/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n293398>
- 24ur.com, SI, 27/11, <http://www.24ur.com/novice/svet/gotovina-srbi-bridite-nazaj-nikolic-zakaj-da-jih-spet-prezenes-in-pobijes.html>

In Kosovo the Prime Minister Hashim Thaci is on a collision course with the legal mission of the European Union (EULEX) in the country. Thaci said the arrest last weekend of Fatmir Limaj, a former rebel leader suspected of war crimes was *"unjust and shameful"* adding *"This is not justice, this is persecution, this is the biggest and harshest insult ever. We are sovereign in this country. We have our laws and our Constitution."* (buitenland.nieuws.nl, 27/11). With the headline 'Engine for reform; A European perspective', Presse-Austria commented that there is also no alternative for Kosovo; It is indispensable for the final stabilization of the Balkans. Even in the Balkans, the prospect of EU membership is the most important driver of reforms. The EU enlargement policy is therefore right and must continue with vigour (Presse-Austria, AT, 27/11).

- buitenland.nieuws.nl, 27/11, http://buitenland.nieuws.nl/728141/kosovo_en_eu_ruzien_over_berechting_limaj
- Presse-Austria, AT, 27/11, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121127/mi/item_141134122.pdf

In front of 10,000 people in Skopje, Albanian Prime Minister Sali Berisha said that *"via the European Union, we will realise the project of our national unity"*. Mr. Berisha insisted that the countries neighbouring Albania must not fear this unity. The same words came out in the speech given by Kosovo's PM Hashim Thaci who promised that he would *"take care"* of the ethnic Albanians in both Serbia and the fYRoM (focus-fen.net, BG, 26/11).

- focus-fen.net, BG, 26/11, <http://www.focus-fen.net/?id=n293341>

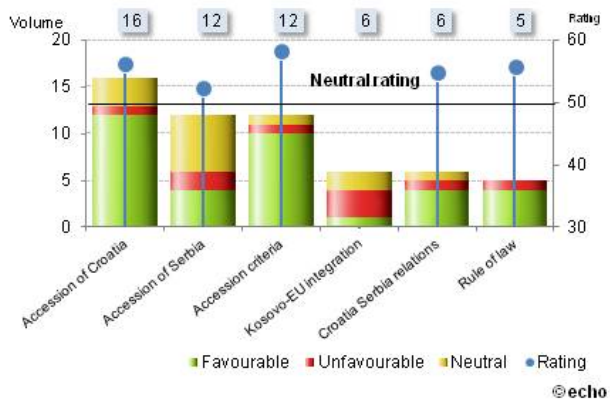
Key Quotes

Rajoy supports Turkey's entry into the European Union: *"Spain has been and remains one of the main supporters of Turkish accession to the EU"* (Diario de León, Spain, 28/11)

http://www.diariodeleon.es/noticias/espana/rajoy-apoya-entrada-de-turquia-en-union-europea_746850.html

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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
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ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Commissioner for Enlargement, EC)	13
Ivo Josipović (President Croatia)	7
Josip Leko (Speaker of the Parliament of Croatia)	6
Zoran Milanović (Prime Minister, Croatia)	5
Hashim Thaçi (Prime Minister, Kosovo)	4

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