



Key Quotes

Romanian Prime minister, Victor Ponta saluted the new visit to Bucharest of the Albanian Prime minister Edi Rama, and assured the latter of the Romanian Government's full support as regards to Albania's European path. Ponta highlighted that it is important that the Tirana authorities follow the good practices used by Romania in the process of EU integration, and also to learn from mistakes in this field made by the Bucharest governments. **"Should you succeed to do all the good things Romania has done all the way to the European Union integration and avoid its mistakes, you'll make it faster and better than we did,"** the Romanian Prime minister said. (actamedia.eu, RO, 2/3)

<http://actmedia.eu/daily/albanian-prime-minister-edi-rama-asked-romania-to-recognise-the-independence-of-kosovo/56717>

Summary

Kosovo - still not in charge of its own affairs

Political scientist, Vedran Dzihic, and Vice President and Kosovo rapporteur Ulrike Lunacek in an article in Der Standard (AT, 2/3) write that seven years after independence, five EU member states have not recognised Kosovo, the youngest country of Europe. They note that although negotiations for a Stabilisation and Association Agreement are basically concluded they continue to drag on. Moreover, Kosovars are still unable to travel freely to the EU. They argue that the formation of the government in December 2014 swept away the last remnants of confidence. They add that it would have been helpful if in the last few years the Austrian Minister of the Interior, Johanna Mikl-Leitner, could have done more to reassure EU Interior ministers to ensure a more positive attitude toward the liberalisation of visas. Der Standard also notes that Kosovo's leading opposition force has new chief, Visar Ymeri. The party is known for its opposition to the international presence in Kosovo and is also against the EU-led dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina (Der Standard, AT, 2/3).

- Der Standard, AT, 2/3, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150302/mi/item_237466751.pdf
- Der Standard, AT, 2/3, <http://derstandard.at/2000012350367/Kosovos-fuehrende-Oppositionskraft-hat-neuen-Chef>

Wiretapping of embassies in Skopje

The news from the opposition in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia that it possesses materials that prove that six foreign ambassadors in Skopje have been wiretapped, has caused alarm within the international community. Serious concern about the possible wiretapping of embassies has been expressed by the European Union office in Skopje, the British embassy and the Swedish embassy (balkaneu.com, GR, 2/3).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 2/3, <http://www.balkaneu.com/diplomats-fyr-macedonia-wiretapped-embassies-react/>

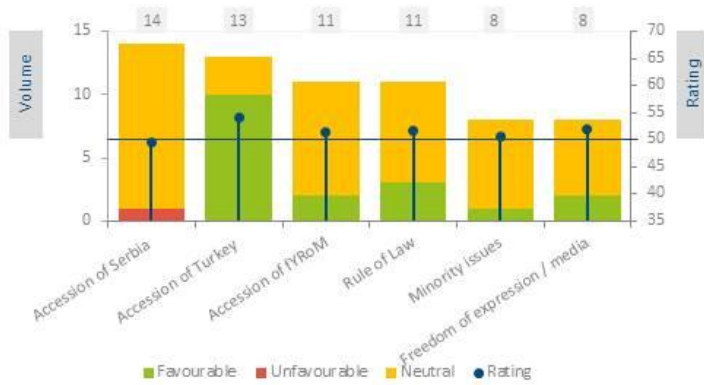
MacKenzie dismisses Turkey's EU ambitions

Former newspaper editor, Kelvin MacKenzie, argues in his Sun column that Turkey should never be allowed to join the EU. He says it's hard to keep pace with the vileness carried out in the name of Islam, adding that David Cameron will never get his way in opening the door to 70 million Muslims by allowing Turkey into the EU (The Sun, UK, 2/3). Meanwhile on Friday, in Ankara, Turkey signed an agreement with the EU Commission for a seven-year 920 million euros "Employment and Social Innovation Program", reports Turkey's Anadolu Agency quoting Turkey's EU Ministry as saying. *"the agreement aims to provide in Turkey a high level of quality and sustainable employment; guarantee adequate and decent social protection; combat social exclusion and poverty and improve work conditions"* (ansamed.it, IT, 2/3). On pilgrimage in Mecca the Turkish President has attacked the updated Austrian Law of Islam (ABC.es, ES, 3/2).

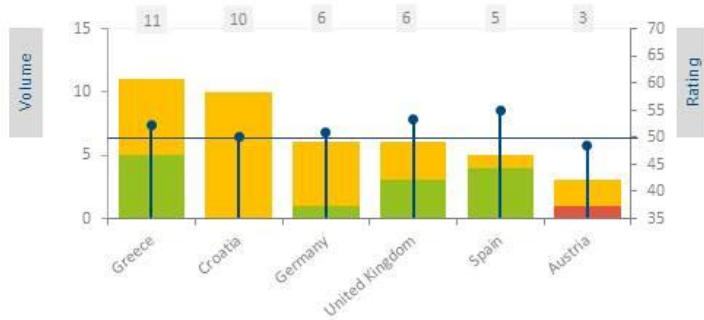
- The Sun, UK, 2/3, [Link not available]
- ansamed.it, IT, 2/3, http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/economics/2015/03/02/turkey-eu-commission-agree-on-7-year-employment-program_278f04c5-0a0d-49a1-a128-6cddb4d43928.html
- ABC.es, ES, 3/2, <http://sevilla.abc.es/internacional/20150302/abci-erdogan-arremete-contra-islam-201503012000.html>

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	45 items
Rating	51.6
Favourable %	28.9%
Unfavourable %	2.2%
Neutral %	68.9%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Nikola Gruevski - former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia PM	9
Zoran Zaev - Opposition leader former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	9
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	8
Ivica Dačić - Serbian FM	6
Federica Mogherini – HR Foreign Affairs	3
John Kerry - U.S. Secretary of State	3
Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović - President Croatia	3

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