



## Key Quotes

Foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini reiterated the EU's commitment to Albania becoming a Member State. The statement came after her meeting with Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama in Brussels. Mogherini and Rama discussed political developments in the country and the reforms that Albania **"is undertaking, particularly after it was granted the status of candidate country for the European Union last year"**. The EU foreign policy chief said that she welcomed **"Prime Minister Rama's firm commitment to the European path of Albania, including the necessary reform work"** ([ansamed.info](http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2015/04/21/albania-has-a-clear-european-perspective-mogherini_2c1d0fbc-7d93-47b7-bf57-bcdec1ef6e7b.html), IT, 21/4)

[http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2015/04/21/albania-has-a-clear-european-perspective-mogherini\\_2c1d0fbc-7d93-47b7-bf57-bcdec1ef6e7b.html](http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2015/04/21/albania-has-a-clear-european-perspective-mogherini_2c1d0fbc-7d93-47b7-bf57-bcdec1ef6e7b.html)

The Council adopted a decision on 21 April concluding the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina, that is expected to enter into force on 1 June. The decision will allow Bosnia and Herzegovina to move forward in its relations with the EU and it should generate a **"stimulus"** to continue socio-economic, judicial, and other necessary reforms for the EU integration of the country, said the Council ([abc.es](http://www.abc.es/agencias/noticia.asp?noticia=1848034), ES, 21/4)

<http://www.abc.es/agencias/noticia.asp?noticia=1848034>

## Summary

### The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is keeping silent about the statement of Albanian Prime Minister, Edi Rama about unification of Albania and Kosovo, Utrinski vesnik daily writes. The newspaper comments that the country should not act as an isolated island in the Balkans and should have an explicit position on such *"corrections to borders"* declared by politicians from neighbouring countries. The political situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia after the publication of records of wiretapped conversations of politicians and officials has probably meant that Mr Rama's statement in Skopje has not been heard, although to achieve his plan there is a need to violate the territorial integrity of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (focus-news.net, BG, 21/4).

- focus-news.net, BG, 21/4, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/04/21/370027/utrinski-vesnik-macedonia-silent-about-edi-ramas-statement-for-albania-kosovo-unification.html>

### Brussels talks for Serbia and Kosovo

The Prime Minister of Kosovo, Isa Mustafa, and that of Serbia, Aleksandar Vučić, have held a fresh round of talks in Brussels. The news was confirmed by Maja Kocijancic, spokeswoman of the EU head of diplomacy, Federica Mogherini. *"Both Prime Ministers will review the progress made so far in the implementation of the agreements that have been reached in previous meetings and they will discuss further steps for the normalization of relations"* said Kocijancic. This meeting follows the one on February 9 when both countries reached a deal for the justice system in the framework of the normalization of relations (balkaneu.com, GR, 21/4). The Serbian Prime Minister, Aleksandar Vučić will also meet the President of the European Council, Donald Tusk, the European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, and Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama (focus-news.net, BG, 21/4).

- balkaneu.com, GR, 21/4, <http://www.balkaneu.com/fresh-talks-held-today-kosovo-serbia/>
- focus-news.net, BG, 21/4, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/04/21/370053/rts-serbia-pm-to-visit-brussels.html>

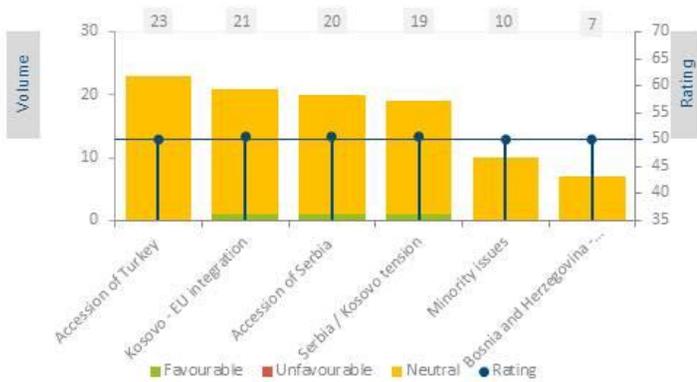
### Turkey offers regrets

Four days before the official anniversary of the Armenian massacre, Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu has found words of regret. *"We share the pain of the children and grandchildren of the Armenians who lost their lives in 1915, in the deportations,"* wrote the head of government in a statement. A year ago, the then Prime Minister, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan made a similar statement. In the Armenian Patriarchate in Istanbul there will be a memorial service on Friday, Davutoğlu announced adding *"It is a human and historical obligation of Turkey to preserve the memory of the Ottoman Armenians and the cultural heritage of the Armenians"*. The Armenian Patriarchate in Istanbul still has some 60,000 believers in Turkey. But Davutoğlu refused to explicitly describe the massacre as genocide in his statement (Der Spiegel, DE, 21/4).

- Der Spiegel, DE, 21/4, <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/tuerkei-ahmet-davutoglu-aeussert-mitgefuehl-mit-armeniern-a-1029629.html>

# Charts

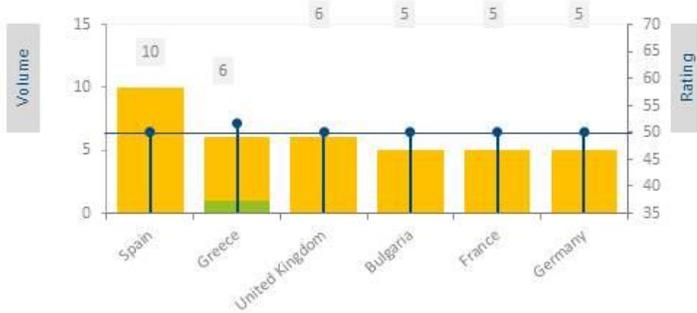
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ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**  
by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Hashim Thaçi - FM Kosovo	18
Pope Francis	15
Ahmet Davutoğlu - Turkey PM	12
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	10
Isa Mustafa - Prime Minister of Kosovo	8
Angela Merkel - German Chancellor	7
Ivica Dačić - Serbian FM	7
Federica Mogherini	7

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