



Summary

The economic impact of accession was widely discussed in the British media, where Tory MP Philip Hollobone claimed the number of people from Bulgaria and Romania could treble to more than 425,000 when work restrictions are lifted next year. He told MPs the figure has already rocketed from 29,000 to 155,000 since Romania and Bulgaria joined the EU in 2007 and said it was a “disgrace” that the Home Office has no plans to predict how many will come here when the restrictions are lifted. He also suggested that ministers should follow Spain’s example and insist all long-stay EU immigrants must register with the authorities (thesun.co.uk, UK, 5/11). The Daily Express (UK, 5/12) suggested that Britain’s membership of the European Union means it is unable to control its borders in the national interest while the Daily Mail (Daily-Mail, UK, 5/11) reported that the number of Eastern Europeans living in Britain is equal to 1.5 per cent of the population of their homelands.

- thesun.co.uk,UK,5/12,<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/politics/4681410/Romania-and-Bulgaria-migrants-to-treble.html>
- Daily-Express, UK, 5/12, <http://www.express.co.uk/ourcomments/view/362544/Romanian-and-Bulgarian-influx-will-be-disastrous>
- Daily-Mail, UK, 5/11, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121205/mi/item_141877707.pdf

The Parliament of Montenegro voted for the inauguration of the new coalition government of Socialist Prime Minister, Milo Djukanovic, 'whose primary mission is to conduct negotiations for European Union accession' according to liberation.fr, (FR, 4/12). The new Prime Minister of Montenegro discussed the priorities for his government: integration into NATO, the continuation of the accession process into the European Union and improvement of the living conditions of citizens (capital.gr, EL, 5/12). "The building of a just state and the fight against corruption and organised crime will be the object of this government's special attention" Djukanovic told parliament before his cabinet was elected. Accusations of crime and corruption have dogged Montenegro's ruling elite since the war years reported uk.news.yahoo.com (UK, 4/12).

- liberation.fr,FR,4/12, http://www.liberation.fr/monde/2012/12/04/nouveau-gouvernement-au-montenegro_865161?xtor=rss-450
- capital.gr,EL,5/12,<http://www.elconfidencial.com/ultima-hora-en-vivo/2012/12/fuerza-union-europea-reside-ampliacion-20121204-63514.html>
- uk.news.yahoo.com,UK,4/12,<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/montenegro-hands-djukanovic-seventh-term-prime-minister-213454598.html>

Bulgaria has long battled perceptions in western Europe that it, like Romania, was admitted to the EU before it had done enough to tackle corruption and organised crime. It has had to live with continued EU monitoring of progress in those areas, which Brussels says remains inadequate. Neelie Kroes, European Commission vice-president, wrote to Mr Borisov in October expressing concerns about media freedom. Meglena Kuneva, formerly Bulgaria's first EU commissioner and who has since formed a political party, says the country has retreated, politically, since its EU admission. "I swear - and I was the chief negotiator for my country, so believe me - that if Bulgaria was to negotiate accession now, it would fail". Georgi Kadiev, who last year was Sofia's mayoral candidate for the main opposition Socialist party, agrees. Bulgaria's biggest problems during its membership negotiations, he notes, were in concluding talks on "Chapter 24" - relating to justice, freedom and security. "I don't think Bulgaria would be able to close this chapter today," he says in an article in the Financial-Times (UK, 5/12). Romania and Bulgaria's Schengen accession is not on the Council agenda, delayed whilst the Netherlands and Germany wait for the CVM report. The subject will be discussed in March, according to the Romanian Secretary of State Marian Tutescu (Curentul, RO, 5/12).

- Financial-Times, UK, 5/12, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121205/mi/item_141878935.pdf
- Curentul, RO, 5/12, http://194.250.231.110/delivery/20121205/mi/item_141885381.pdf

Key Quotes

Serbia is getting closer to the EU (Népszava, Hungary, 6/12)

http://www.nepszava.hu/articles/article.php?id=605129&referer_id=friss

Serbia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Aleksandar Vucic criticized the "shameful" verdicts in a speech to the UN Security Council. "Our faith in international justice has suffered the severest blow possible," he said (Focus News, Bulgaria, 6/12).

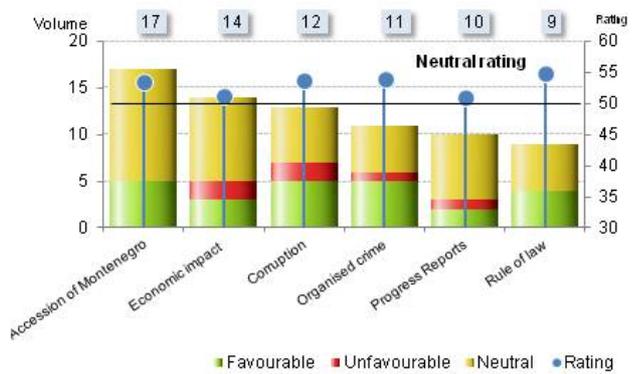
<http://www.focus-news.net/?id=n1725583>

Scottish independence: Separate Scotland must apply to join EU, warns Brussels (The Scotsman, UK, 6/12).

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/scottish-independence-separate-scotland-must-apply-to-join-eu-warns-brussels-1-2677200>

Charts

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

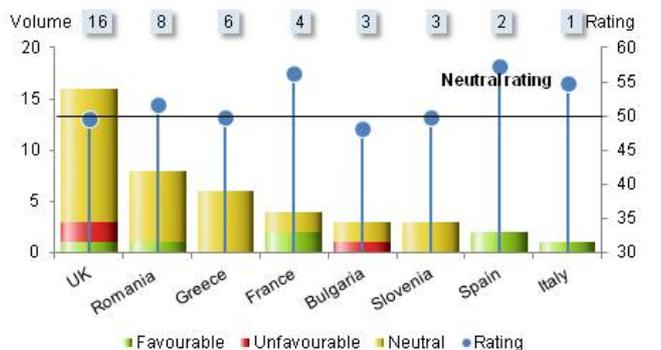


ELARG: **Highlights**
by volume, favourability & rating

Volume	43 items
Rating	51.2
Favourable %	16.3%
Unfavourable %	7%
Neutral %	76.7%

©echo

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



©echo

ELARG: **Key Stakeholders & Sources**
by volume, favourability & rating

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Milo Đukanović (Prime Minister, Montenegro)	17
Philip Hollobone (Conservative politician, UK)	8
Marian Tulescu (Ministry of the Interior, Romania)	4
Igor Lukšić (Foreign Minister, Montenegro)	4
Raško Konjević (Interior Minister, Montenegro)	4
Radoje Kontić (Finance Minister, Montenegro)	4

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