



## Key Quotes

Luxembourg says it will support Bosnia and Herzegovina in its EU accession bid during its Presidency of the EU Council later this year. Foreign Affairs Minister Jean Asselborn stressed Luxembourg's support for Bosnia and Herzegovina, saying that the nation is a **"united and sovereign state, which is multiethnic, stable and prosperous enjoying full territorial integrity."** Minister Asselborn also added that Luxembourg would **"ensure as much as possible progress in the process of European rapprochement to the Western Balkans, including Bosnia and Herzegovina"** (neurope.eu, BE, 21/5)  
<http://www.neurope.eu/article/luxembourg-supports-bosnia-herzegovina-eu-bid/>

## Summary

### They agreed that they disagree and the crisis continues

The 12-hour long round of deliberations in Strasbourg dedicated to finding a solution to the crisis in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ended without any meaningful progress and with a short announcement. In the announcement issued after their meeting with Enlargement Negotiations Commissioner Johannes Hahn and the MEP's who are rapporteurs for the Balkans, the two sides confirmed their dedication to the EU accession process and the democratic principles (Efimerida Ton Sintakton, GR, 21/5). We are currently in the process of negotiating, the talks, however, have not started yet said the opposition leader, Zoran Zaev. He made the statement after arriving in Skopje following the negotiations with Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski in Strasbourg. At the tented camp in front of the parliament Zaev reaffirmed his party's position demanding the resignation of the Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski. The next meeting is set for May 26th (Novinite.com, BG, 21/5).

- Efimerida Ton Sintakton, GR, 21/5, [http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150521/mi/item\\_249360323.pdf](http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150521/mi/item_249360323.pdf)
- Novinite.com, BG, 21/5, <http://www.novinite.com/articles/168691/Real+Negotiations+Have+Not+Started+Yet+Macedonia's+Zaev+Says>

### Bulgaria rejects Lavrov claim of interference in former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Bulgaria called the claim by Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov that Bulgaria and Albania were trying to split the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia highly irresponsible. Bulgarian Foreign Minister Daniel Mitov responded the same day, saying *"Attempts to call into question European policy in the region and the territorial integrity of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are unacceptable"* adding *"the stability of all countries of South Eastern Europe is of paramount importance to us and attempts by countries outside the region to undermine it through such suggestions should stop"* (EurActiv.com, BE, 21/5).

- EurActiv.com, BE, 21/5, <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/global-europe/bulgaria-rejects-russian-claim-it-wants-dismember-macedonia-314755>

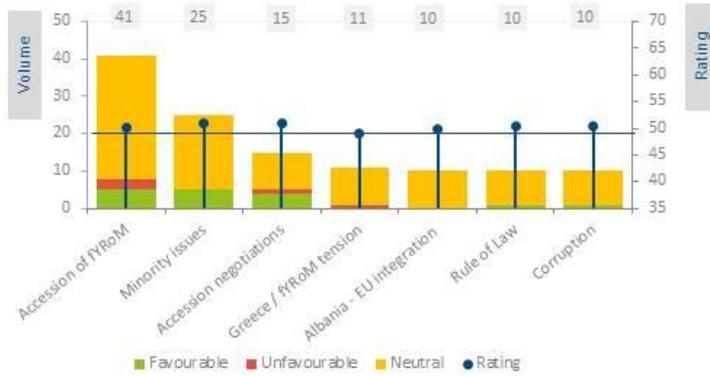
### Council of Europe position on Turkey

On 20th May in Strasbourg, presenting the position of the Council of the European Union at the European Parliament debate, the Foreign Ministry State Secretary for EU Affairs in Latvia, Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica, stressed that the EU attaches great importance to relations with Turkey. While welcoming the firm commitment of the Turkish Government to continue on its path of accession to the EU, Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica also emphasised that reforms were required in a number of areas to strengthen civil society, democracy and human rights. The debate at the European Parliament was held as the MP's were preparing to adopt a resolution on the European Commission's recommendations for Turkey. During the discussion the Parliamentary State Secretary highlighted the good cooperation between the EU and Turkey on foreign policy issues, Turkey's contribution to receiving refugees in the region, as well as the active counter-terrorism dialogue (Balkans.com, UK, 21/5).

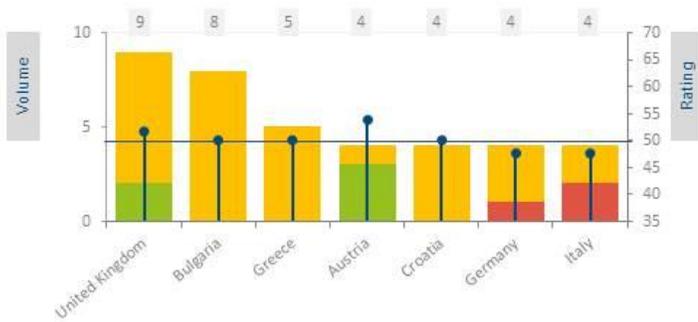
Balkans.com, UK, 21/5, <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=203825>

# 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	53 items
Rating	50.3
Favourable %	11.3%
Unfavourable %	5.7%
Neutral %	83%

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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Nikola Gruevski - PM former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	28
Zoran Zaev - opposition leader former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	27
Sergei Lavrov - FM Russia	11
Richard Howitt - MEP	11
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	8
Eduard Kukan - MEP	8
Ivo Vajgl - MEP	8

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