



Key Quotes

Leaders of six Western Balkan countries told the European Union that they were becoming impatient with their long wait to join the bloc and needed EU funds to keep up reforms. **"We are fed up with seminars. We need some money from the EU funds, and then you will see the smiles on our faces,"** said Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic. **"We do not want to allow patience fatigue (over EU entry) to become the enemy. We have to ... see some concrete results,"** Rama added. Former German foreign minister Joschka Fischer said that the Balkan leaders raised reasonable points. **"If you want to have regional cooperation you need connectivity, streets, railways. It is important that this is understood by Brussels,"** he said. (uk.reuters.com, UK, 28/5)

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/05/28/uk-eu-balkans-idUKKBN0OD20D20150528>

Summary

European intervention in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Brussels will not send a special representative to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia over the political crisis in the country, Utrinski vesnik daily writes. For a week there has been speculation that the EU would send a representative but this was refuted by the European Commission (focus-news.net, BG, 28/5). European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, will visit Macedonia on Monday, Macedonian 24 vesti TV reported. Mr Hahn will hold separate meetings with the Prime Minister, Nikola Gruevski and the leader of the opposition, Zoran Zaev. After the talks there will be a leaders' meeting of the four biggest political parties in Macedonia (focus-news.net, BG, 28/5).

- focus-news.net, BG, 28/5, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/05/28/373614/utrinski-vesnik-eu-not-to-send-representative-to-macedonia.html>
- focus-news.net, BG, 28/5, <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2015/05/28/373616/24-vesti-cssr-johannes-hahn-to-visit-macedonia.html>

Serbs and Albanians agree to disagree

Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić and his Albanian counterpart Edi Rama agreed to disagree on Kosovo and sought closer cooperation between their countries. This happened at the meeting of the two leaders on Wednesday, which is part of the two-day visit of Vučić to Tirana. The meeting in Albania was historic, as it was the first time that a Serbian Prime Minister had visited Tirana. Although differences were expressed during the talks, the two leaders have initiated a process which can only bring prosperity. They agreed on letting bygones be bygones and looking to the future as the two countries aimed for EU membership and better mutual relations. The two leaders also called on businessmen and investors from the two countries to become more engaged with each other (Novinite.com, BG, 28/5).

- Novinite.com, BG, 28/5, <http://www.novinite.com/articles/168865/Serbian+Albanian+PMs+Agree+to+Disagree+on+Kosovo+Seek+Closer+Cooperation>

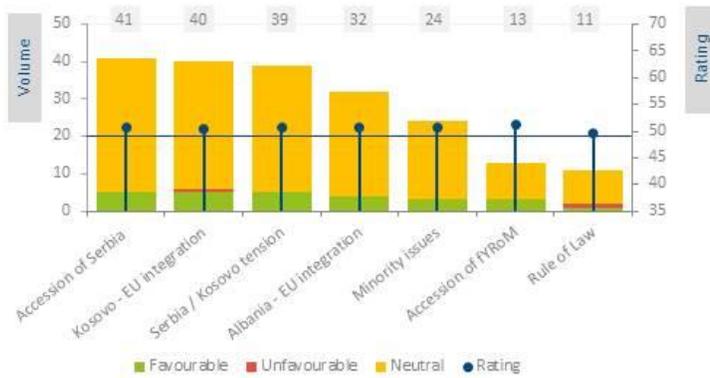
Papal visit to BiH

Even before arriving in Sarajevo, Pope Francis has achieved a remarkable feat. Preparing for the visit, Bosnians of all faiths are showing a rare unity in a country. While the pontiff's June 6 visit is the most eagerly awaited by Catholic Croats, the smallest group in the ethnically segmented state, Orthodox Serbs and Muslim Bosniaks have also taken an active part in preparing a warm welcome for Francis. His compassionate message seems to have struck a chord in a country struggling to overcome its divisions and advance its stalled bid to join the European Union. In the central town of *Zavidovići*, Bosniak woodcarver Edin Hajderovac, a devout Muslim, surprised his Catholic neighbours by offering to make a chair for the pope. **"I can't tell you how much this means to me"** he said, showing the imposing chair of walnut wood engraved with the papal coat-of-arms and emblems of Bosnian Catholic shrines (Daily Mail, UK, 28/5).

- Daily Mail, UK, 28/5, <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-3100653/Pope-visit-preparations-promote-unity-multi-faith-Bosnia.html>

Charts

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



ELARG: **Highlights**
by volume, overall rating and percentage favourability

Volume	51 items
Rating	50.6
Favourable %	15.7%
Unfavourable %	2.0%
Neutral %	82.3%

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



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

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Aleksandar Vučić - PM Serbia	33
Edi Rama - PM Albania	32
Hashim Thaçi - FM Kosovo	8
Jean-Claude Juncker - President EC	6
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	4
Federica Mogherini - HR Foreign Affairs	3
Nikola Gruevski - PM former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	2

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