10th JUNE 2015 (WEDNESDAY)



DG NEAR – 10th JUNE 2015 Media Evaluation Summary Report

Key Quotes

A leading German MEP has said that the upcoming meeting between Belgrade and Pristina on 23rd June might be the key to open EU-Serbia accession negotiations this year. Speaking at the Economic Summit of Serbia, McAllister said that "the upcoming meeting of prime ministers of Serbia and Kosovo, Aleksandar Vučić and Isa Mustafa, could have a decisive impact on whether Serbia manages to open the first chapters in the EU accession negotiations. For tangible improvements, both sides need to be constructive" (euractiv.com, BE, 10/6).

http://www.euractiv.com/sections/enlargement/berlin-pressures-serbia-normalise-relations-kosovo-315245

Summary

Balkans at a crossroads

That the Balkans are at a crossroads was the main message of the summit of regional leaders in Budva, Montenegro on Monday. The Slovenian president at a press conference summed up by saying that the only way was the prosperous European perspective of the Western Balkan route. Pahor urged a much stronger push for EU enlargement. "Now is the time, now is the opportunity" he said (Vecer, SI, 9/6). The Slovenian President added that the leaders of the regional Brdo Process have achieved significant headway in building dialogue, trust and reconciliation but caution is advised. The presidents decided to send a letter to the European Council President Donald Tusk and request a meeting between EU and Western Balkans leaders. Like Pahor the other presidents stressed that EU integration is the only alternative for the EU, noting that despite clear enlargement fatigue the EU needs to support reforms in the region (sloveniatimes.com, SI, 9/6).

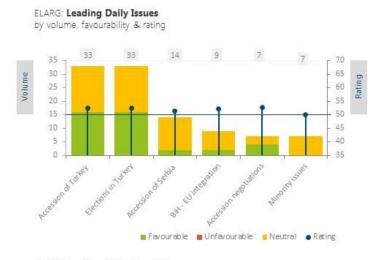
- Vecer, SI, 9/6, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150609/mi/item 252121889.pdf
- sloveniatimes.com, SI, 9/6, http://www.sloveniatimes.com/president-pahor-warns-western-balkans-at-a-crossroads

Beware the two-headed dragon

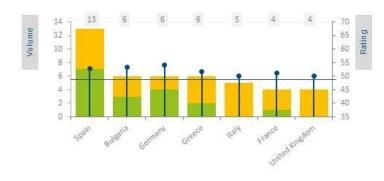
In De Standaard, (BE, 8/6), Professor in international politics at the Catholic University of Leuven, Dirk Rochtus, writes about the growing importance of the Kurds in Turkey. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has lost his majority in the Turkish Parliament and one may wonder which coalition will be reached. Mr Rochtus believes that a coalition of the AKP together with the MHP will be dangerous as a two-headed dragon as it will lead to further confrontation with Kurds. Mr Rochtus notes that those who advocate EU enlargement negotiations for Turkey are satisfied with the outcome of the elections. In a commentary in Sole 24 Ore (IT, 9/6) Adriana Cerretelli says that Turkey's political situation is a new factor for the EU's economic and geo-strategic stability. Turkey is crucial for energy security, as an industrial partner and to "guard" the critical area from Iraq to Syria. G7 leaders are pushing for an accord with Greece, because Europe cannot afford instability near its southern and eastern borders. She says Europe urgently needs internal cohesion and self-confidence.

- De Standaard, BE, 8/6, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150609/mi/item 252135686.pdf
- Sole 24 Ore, IT, 9/6, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20150609/mi/item 252116916.pdf

Charts



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ELARG: Highlights

by volume, overall rating and percentage favourability

Volume	54 items	
Rating	52.5	
Favourable %	40.7%	
Unfavourable %	0%	

ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources

by volume

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - Turkey President	29
Johannes Hahn - Neighbourhood Policy & Enlarg	17
Federica Mogherini – HR Foreign Affairs	15
Milorad Dodik - Bosnian Serb politician	6
Ahmet Davutoğlu - Turkey PM	5
lvica Dačić - Serbian FM	5

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