



Weekly Media Report

3 – 6 February 2014

International Affairs

Albanian Prime Minister invites Italian investors to see Albania as “a new horizon”, “conquest territory” – Balkan Web (Albania), 3 February 2014

In a two-day visit to Italy, Prime Minister Edi Rama presented Albania as a new horizon looming for the Italian businesses. In meetings with Italian businessmen in Milan and in an interview for an Italian newspaper, he invited the Italian companies to see Albania as a conquest territory, which has all the resources, cheap labour force including, for successful investments. He also presented the Italian investors with the reforms undertaken by the new government, aimed at fighting crime and corruption, dwelling particularly on the administrative-territorial reform, which as Rama said will further improve the business atmosphere in the country.

<http://www.balkanweb.com/gazetav5/>

Kuwait investment fund to participate in Italian *Cassa deposito e prestiti* (deposit and loan fund) – *Corriere della Sera (IT)*, 4 February 2014

The Kia fund will invest 500 million Euros in order to relaunch Italian firms.

http://www.corriere.it/economia/14_febbraio_04/letta-fondo-kuwait-investe-500-milioni-italia-b83abebc-8d7e-11e3-9737-22dadb171b02.shtml

European Affairs

Corruption in EU costs '120bn euros' - EU Commission – BBC (UK), 3 February 2014

The EU's Home Affairs Commissioner has warned of staggering levels of corruption in member countries. Presenting the first EU-wide anti-corruption report, Cecilia Malmstrom said the problem eroded trust in democratic institutions and provided a breeding ground for organised crime. She said the true cost of corruption was at least 120bn euros (£99bn) annually.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-26016467>

Ukraine crisis: Opposition MPs seek to curb president's powers – BBC (UK), 4 February 2014

Ukraine's MPs are continuing crisis talks to try to change the constitution - a move aimed at curtailing the powers of President Viktor Yanukovich. This is a key demand by the opposition, who has warned that parliament's failure to act now will further inflame mass anti-government protests. Pro-presidential MPs oppose the move, and the speaker has given until Wednesday morning to find a compromise.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-26026592>

National Affairs

Economy