

Iceland referendum 'to go ahead' as talks fail

Iceland has all but given up on agreeing a new deal with the UK and the Netherlands to repay more than 3.8bn euros (\$5.2bn; £3.4bn) of debt. It had hoped to avoid a referendum on the issue by agreeing a repayment plan before the weekend, but the vote is likely to go ahead on Saturday. Opinion polls suggest Icelandic voters will reject a plan agreed last year. A no vote could jeopardize billions of dollars of loans from the International Monetary Fund and other countries.