

## EPP PRESIDENT HAILS SIGNING OF LISBON TREATY BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND COMPLETION OF THE RATIFICATION PROCESS

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The President of the European People's Party (EPP) **Wilfried Martens** hailed this afternoon the signing of the Lisbon Treaty by the Czech Republic and the completion of the ratification process by all 27 Member States:

*"After a long and often difficult process, the Lisbon Treaty has finally been ratified by all 27 Member States. Today, the European Union is entering a new era: it becomes more ambitious, more efficient, more political. The EU will soon have - along with the President of the European Commission and the President of the European Parliament - a President of the European Council and a High Representative for Foreign Affairs. This new leadership will bring Europe closer to the citizens and, at the same time, will put the EU at the global center-stage,"* stated the EPP President.

*"Following the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty, the EPP will do its part for its swift implementation and in this respect, we will put forward highly qualified EPP personalities as candidates for one of the two new functions,"* Wilfried Martens added.

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