

## YULIA TYMOSHENKO'S PARTY APPLIES FOR EPP OBSERVER MEMBERSHIP

05-08-2007



### YULIA TYMOSHENKO'S PARTY APPLIES FOR OBSERVER MEMBERSHIP OF THE EPP

The Convention of the Batkivshchyna Party founded and led by **Yulia Tymoshenko**, Ukraine's Leader of the Opposition, decided during its congress in Kiev on the 5th of August, 2007 to apply for EPP observer membership.

The move is proof of Batkivshchyna's commitment to furthering modern European democratic principles and values, and places Ms Tymoshenko alongside other EPP leaders. *"Joining the EPP demonstrates our commitment to deliver political stability and economic growth for Ukraine, enshrined by the rule of law and best principles of European democracy. We will uphold these values,"* said Ms Tymoshenko.

In his speech at the convention EPP President **Wilfried Martens** concluded: *"We welcome your efforts in building a democratic party with European values and principles, which will bring Ukraine and all her citizens a prosperous and peaceful future."*

Here is the full speech of **President Martens**:

*"It is with great pleasure that I address the Congress of the Bloc of Yulia Tymoshenko. My support today is the continuation of the fruitful and important dialogue between our political forces.*

*The European People's Party is the political family of the centre-right, whose roots run deep in the history and civilization of Europe and that has pioneered the European project from its beginning. The EPP is the largest party of Europe. With 70 member parties from 37 countries, 18 Prime Ministers, 9 European Commissioners, and the largest Group in the European Parliament with 278 members, the EPP is the leading political force in the European Union. Leaders of my party run the institutions of the European Union, the European Council recently was led by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the Commission is led by President Jose Manuel Barroso and the Parliament the President Hans-Gert Poettering. In addition, EPP is well represented in the Committee of the Regions, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, and the Assemblies of the OSCE and NATO.*

*After the enormous victory of the Orange Revolution, we follow in the EPP closely the political developments in Ukraine as well as the evolution of our sister parties. Looking at the political spectrum of Ukraine we understand the important role which your Bloc of Yulia Tymoshenko plays, defending democratic values and civil society in your country. We were happy to see that you are protecting the same values which we supported during your Orange Revolution.*

*My hope an political aspiration is that soon you will be an active member of the EPP. Our aspiration for Ukraine, for this great European country, is to become part of the European family, as far as you satisfy all criteria and values. Therefore Ukraine has to move forward, to pursue reforms and their implementation. To achieve this you need a stable government and not a mafia, capable of acting in a fast and efficient way - and committed to protect democracy and the rule of law.*

*President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Tymoshenko together defend democratic values in Ukraine and they stand against corruption, against crime and against violence. Therefore the EPP supports the unity of Orange forces. We hope that the Bloc of Yulia Tymoshenko together with the Nasha Ukraina Coalition will win the elections and will form a new democratic government to the benefit all citizens and to take important steps for the European future of your country.*

*We welcome your efforts in building a democratic party with European values and principles, which will bring Ukraine a prosperous and peaceful future for all"*

 [Print](#)