

LETTER EXPLODED IN THE OFFICE OF HANS-GERT POETTERING,

06-01-2004

The office of the Chairman of EPP-ED Group in the European Parliament, Hans-Gert Poettering, received yesterday, from an unknown source, an envelope, which exploded when being opened by a female employee. Nobody was hurt. The Security Services of the European Parliament were informed immediately and an investigation launched.

Similar letters were sent, towards the end of December 2003, to other European Institutions and personalities (Commission President Romano Prodi, Central Bank President Jean Claude Trichet, Europol, EuroJust). EPP President Wilfried MARTENS sent a letter of solidarity to Poettering, as well as to the Spanish deputy Jose Ignacio SALAFRANCA, who received a similar letter which was deactivated by the security services of the EP.

'These acts of violence remind us that the fight against terrorism must be a priority in the Europe of 25' Martens said. 'Terrorists will feel more and more isolated in the European Union. Terrorists acts like yesterday's are absurd, as they are desperate'

<http://www.epp.eu/ssspagina.php?hoofdmenuID=5&submenuID=51&subsubmenuID=89&sssmenuID=121>