

EPP PRESIDENT ATTENDS CDU ANNUAL CONGRESS

06-12-2007



EPP President, **Wilfried Martens**, addressed the CDU and its leader Chancellor **Angela Merkel**, during its annual congress held in Hannover on 3 and 4 December 2007.

Martens congratulated the CDU on improving the national unemployment rate and on the success of the EU German presidency, without which there would not have been the breakthrough of a European Reform Treaty. He said, *"there were high expectations, but the CDU-led government was able to meet them. Together with the President of the European*

Parliament and many other leading figures, you have made sure that the CDU is recognized as a German European party."

He highlighted the common goals of the CDU and the EPP, *"our policy is based on the Christian understanding of mankind and his responsibility before God. Our fundamental values: freedom, solidarity and justice are derived from this view of mankind."*

In particular President Martens commended Ms Merkel for her ambitious goals on climate protection. *"It is our moral responsibility towards future generations to safeguard the Creation. For the EPP, this issue will be the main focus of our work in the coming months. We will support the decisions of the EU on climate protection according to our capabilities. I would like the EPP to lead in ensuring sustained growth, and use of efficient energy and modern technology. We are the political power, which can show that there are no inconsistencies between environmental protection, conservation of resources, innovation and growth,"* said Martens.

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