

MARTENS: MORE EUROPE IS NEEDED TO DEAL WITH OUR MAIN CHALLENGES

09-05-2009



To mark the "Day of Europe", the President of the EPP, **Wilfried Martens**, stated that *"more than ever the EU is the best solution to tackle the challenges facing our society"*.

"The economic crisis has proven once again that, united, we are stronger and more able to counterbalance the common difficulties. Without the euro, the impact of the crisis would have been far worse in the economic system of the EU Member States".

"The economy is the main priority today, but at the same time we have to continue to work on the other challenges, such as climate change; the continued threat of terrorism; the necessity for a well-managed immigration system; and the ageing of our population and its impact on public finances. In each field, the EU has a key role to play in cooperation with the national authorities," added Martens.

"This is why the EPP has focused its program for the forthcoming European elections, adopted last week during its Congress in Warsaw, on five areas: Creating Prosperity for Everyone; Making Europe a Safer Place; Combating Climate Change; Tackling the Demographic Challenge; and Uniting Europe on the World Stage".

"I am convinced that our program summarizes the main concerns of the European citizens. The EPP will implement this program in cooperation with each of its member parties, many of them already leading Governments across Europe, to create a better world for us and our future generations. This is our aim; and in order to achieve it we need more Europe, not less," concluded President Martens.

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