

MARTENS: "ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS TO DO ITS HOMEWORK"

11-02-2004

A few days after the EPP Congress, where the party approved a resolution confirming the accession of Romania in 2007, President Martens confirmed that of course the government would have to work a lot to reach this goal. He confirmed also that special assistance in the establishment of the rule of law is needed ♦ an area where the socialist government has not made much progress.

♦ The EPP has made clear, that from our side we are ready to keep our commitments. But of course criteria have to be met and considerable progress in the implementation of the *acquis communautaire* has to be reached. And in the last years, not enough has happened in Romania in this regard. I support the amendment on the Draft Report presented by ARIE M. OOSTLANDER MEP asking the Commission to urgently establish a plan for increased and effective monitoring of the implementation of the parts of the *acquis* already adopted by Romania, in particular in the field of Justice and Home Affairs, complemented by clear benchmarks, the introduction of regular review periods and assistance in the combat against corruption and asking all three EU institutions to work closely together in order to allow Romania to Progress and for the normal negotiations on the remaining chapters to resume, ♦ Martens concludes.