

## EPP LEADERS CALL FOR AN AGREEMENT ON THE EUROPEAN BUDGET

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European People's Party (EPP) leaders called for an agreement on the European Union (EU) budget for the period 2007 - 2013 during the [EPP Summit](#) meeting held earlier today ([click here](#) for pictures).

EPP Prime Ministers and leaders of opposition discussed this issue with the European Commission President **Jos♦ Manuel BARROSO** and they agreed that a deal at the European Council Summit would be a major boost for the EU.

*"The European Union is in deep crisis after the negative results of the referenda in France and the Netherlands. At the same time, this is the first tentative attempt on reaching an agreement on the budget. Needless to say, a new failure would damage even more the credibility of the EU",* EPP President **Wilfried MARTENS** said.

*"As members of the biggest European political family, the leaders of the EPP have taken firm positions in order to facilitate an agreement at the EU level",* he added.

President Martens underlined that *"the EPP has been the only European party to have a real political Summit before this decisive European Council"*.

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