

## EPP LEADERS CALL FOR A FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE NEW EU TREATY

18-10-2007



The EPP leaders called today EU Governments to finalize an agreement on the new Treaty of the EU during a Summit held in Lisbon.

The EPP heads of State and Government, along with other party leaders, underlined the necessity for reaching a deal on the pending points in order to conclude the agreement on the Treaty reached last June under the German presidency of the EU.

*"Europe needs a Treaty that can correspond to the needs and realities of today. We need a Treaty that will make the EU more efficient, more transparent and more flexible in order to meet current and future challenges. The Reform Treaty provides the instruments that we need in order for Europe to move forward"*, the EPP President, **Wilfried MARTENS**, pointed out.

*"Indeed, such an agreement would end the political crisis of the EU and give a new impetus to the European institutions"*, Martens added.

In the EPP Summit a number of prominent EU Heads of State and Government participated, including **Angela MERKEL** (Germany), **Jan-Peter BALKENENDE** (The Netherlands), **Kostas KARAMANLIS** (Greece), **Jean-Claude JUNCKER** (Luxembourg), **Lawrence GONZI** (Malta), **Janez JANSKA** (Slovenia), **Aigars KALVITIS** (Latvia) and **Traian BASESCU** (Romania), along with Austrian Deputy Federal Chancellor **Wilhelm MOLTERER** and Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs, **Per Stig MOLLER**.

The President of the European Commission, **Jose Manuel BARROSO** and the President of the European Parliament, **Hans-Gert POETTERING**, also attended the meeting.

In addition, today's EPP Summit in Lisbon registered for the first time the participation of the President of Georgia, **Mikheil SAAKASHVILI**. The leader of the opposition in Belarus and winner of the Sajarov Prize of the European Parliament, **Aleksander MILINKEVICH**, also participated in the meeting, along with President **Victor YUSHCHENKO** (Ukraine), Chairwoman of BYuT of Ukraine, **Yulia TYMOSHENKO**, Prime Minister **Ivo SANADER** (Croatia), Prime Minister **Sali BERISHA** (Albania) and Prime Minister **Nikola GRUEVSKI** (FYROM).

*"The presence of Mr. SAAKASHVILI and Mr. MILINKEVICH shows the commitment of the EPP for promoting democracy and freedom beyond EU's borders"*, President Martens said.

Finally, the EPP Presidency adopted [a resolution](#) that underlines the respect for the victims of Vukovar (Croatia) and the need for historical truth and justice in the service of peace and reconciliation in Southeast Europe.

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