

## ROMANIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY JOINS THE EPP

19-09-2005



The Political Bureau of the European People's Party approved today unanimously to give the Democratic Party of Romania (PD) the status of observer. The PD presented its application on June 2005, after withdrawing its membership from the Party of European Socialists (PES) and the Socialist International (SI).

*“We are proud to welcome in the EPP a former member of the Socialists in such a key moment for the future integration of Romania in the European Union. I hope that the Democratic Party will work closely with our longstanding EPP Romanian partners (PPCD and RMDSZ) in order to prepare this country to join the EU in 2007”,* EPP President Wilfried

Martens said.

Martens also stressed that the PD's observer status will facilitate the integration of their observer MPs to the EPP-ED Group in the European Parliament.

In order to strengthen the cooperation with its Romanian partners, the EPP Working Group *“Enlargement and Membership”* will hold its next meeting in Bucharest on November 2005. This meeting will be an opportunity to introduce the PD to EPP structures and activities.

The EPP Political Bureau decided not to accept the application of the Conservative Party (PC) of Romania, as it does not fulfill the EPP criteria.

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