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Brussels, 21 October

The President of the EPP, **Wilfried Martens**, congratulated today EPP Vice-President Alojz Peterle for his victory in the first round of the presidential elections held on Sunday in Slovenia.

"Alojz Peterle has received the widespread support of the Slovenian people and I am sure that this first victory will be confirmed in the final round", Martens said.

"Mr. Peterle has accomplished excellent work as Member of the European Parliament and as EPP Vice-President. His European experience will be a great asset for him as President of his country", he added.

"The EPP is looking forward to see Slovenia lead by prominent figures of the EPP: Prime Minister Janez Jansa and Alojz Peterle", President Martens concluded.

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