

EPP PRIME MINISTERS WELCOME THE EU ENLARGEMENT IN DUBLIN

22-04-2004

Several Prime Ministers, opposition and party leaders from all over Europe and European Commissioners close to the EPP gather at Dublin on 1 May in advance of the formal European Union Enlargement celebrations being organised by the Irish Presidency.

The meeting organised on the invitation of EPP President, Wilfried MARTENS, and the leader of Fine Gael, Enda KENNY, will take place at The Shelbourne Hotel, from 12:00 to 15:00h.

◆ The European People's Party, along with its sister parties throughout the member states, has played a crucial role in bringing about this historic reunification of Europe. We worked hard and for a long time to re-unite Europe and now this historic event of huge economic and political significance is at hand ◆, MARTENS said

◆ The Europe of 25 represents the biggest landmark on the road of building a strong Europe. Now we will be more than 450 million of European citizens, with new opportunities and new challenges. We have to be united to maintain the stability and prosperity of our European Union ◆, MARTENS added.

At this working lunch, EPP leaders will also discuss the next European Parliament elections in June.