

23 NOVEMBER - UKRAINE. OUTRAGED EPP PRESIDENT INVITES YUSHENKO TO SUMMIT

23-11-2004

The President of the EPP, Mr. Wilfried Martens expressed today his outrage at the wide-spread fraud that was verified by the international monitors at last Sunday's second round of presidential elections in Ukraine.

◆ This is a blatant attempt to overthrow and silence the wide-spread democratic movement headed by Mr. Victor Yushenko, ◆ he said.

◆ When I visited Kiev a few days ago, I personally witnessed this movement against the current authoritarian regime. You can see it everywhere ◆ you can feel it, ◆ Martens stated.

The EPP President has welcomed the European Union's decision not to recognize the result and to summon the Ukrainian ambassadors.

◆ The EPP will back-up the European Union's decision and offer all possible assistance in order for the Ukrainian authorities to reconsider their position. In fact, since I am convinced that the real winner of Sunday's elections is Victor Yushenko, I have decided to invite him to the upcoming EPP summit in Brussels on 16 December, which will include eleven EU Prime Ministers and the President of the EU Commission, " Martens concluded.