

Greece: ND President Antonis Samaras meets with EPP President Wilfried Martens and EPP Secretary General Antonio Lopez-Isturiz at Party headquarters

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The President of Nea Demokratia (ND) and leader of the official opposition of Greece, **Antonis Samaras**, visited today the headquarters of the European People's Party (EPP) in Brussels and met with the President of the EPP **Wilfried Martens** and the Secretary General of the EPP **Antonio Lopez-Isturiz**. Samaras and his 4-member delegation discussed with the EPP leadership the political and economic situation in Greece. ND is a longstanding member-party of the EPP.

"I am very happy to have received here in the Party headquarters ND President Antonis Samaras and his delegation and to discuss the latest developments in Greece. I am particularly pleased with the way Antonis Samaras, as leader of the official opposition, is responding to the Greek economic crisis and the constructive proposals he is putting forward. Needless to say, Samaras and ND have the full support of the EPP," underlined Wilfried Martens.

"Samaras is a strong leader with a very good grasp of economic policy; he's speech at the EPP Congress in Bonn on the 'Social Market Economy' was impressive. I believe that sooner, rather than later, he will gain the widespread confidence of the Greek public," Antonio Lopez-Isturiz added.

Antonis Samaras thanked the EPP leadership:

"Nea Demokratia is in a process of renewal and is reaching out to people and their concerns. Europe has always been at the centre of our policies and that's why I'm here in Brussels; to meet with the EU leadership, to listen to their concerns but also to explain our point of view about the economic situation in Greece and to help restore confidence and credibility. Thus, I am very grateful for the support of President Martens, Secretary General Lopez-Isturiz and the EPP as a whole."

Note to editors:

The EPP is the largest and most influential European-level political party of the centre-right, which currently includes 72 member-parties from 39 countries, the Presidents of the Commission, Council, and Parliament, 13 EU and 6 non-EU heads of state and government, 13 members of the European Commission and the largest Group in the European Parliament.

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