

EUROPE'S CAPITALS AND CITIES: TOP PRIORITY FOR THE EPP - SEMINAR ON 30 JANUARY

28-01-2008



The **European People's Party** (EPP), the **EPP Group in the Committee of the Regions** and **Europe Metropoles** are holding a policy seminar on **30 January** entitled "*The Role of the European Union for our Capitals: Realities and Perspectives*". The meeting will bring together politicians, belonging to the EPP family, who have been elected in the capital cities of the 27 EU member countries in order to exchange experiences and best practice in their relations with the European Union.

This is the second time that EPP local councillors from European Capitals and major cities will meet to discuss the issues that are of particular relevance to them. Through this initiative, the EPP would like to strengthen the network of EPP elected representatives, both those in government and in opposition, in order to create a strong partnership for influencing the EU decision-makers about policies concerning urban policies.

Key note speakers include **Christian Kremer**, Deputy Secretary General of the EPP and Member of the European Parliament, **Joseph Daul**, Chairman of the EPP-ED Group in the European Parliament, **Luc Van den Brande**, First Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions and **Jos Chabert**, Member of the regional Parliament of Brussels and former President of the CoR.

Journalists are invited to attend. Please confirm your participation by sending an e-mail to jjimenez@epp.eu or kathryn.owens@cor.europa.eu.

Date and time: Wednesday 30 January, from 09:15 until 17:30

Venue: EPP Headquarters
Rue du Commerce, 10
1000 Brussels

For more information:

Javier Jiménez (EPP Press Officer) or Katie Owens (EPP/CoR Press Officer)
Tel: +32 2 285 41 56 or +32 2 282 2400
E-mail: jjimenez@epp.eu or kathryn.owens@cor.europa.eu

PROGRAM

9 am : Welcome coffee. Registration of participants

9.15 am : Opening speech by Christian Kremer, EPP Deputy Secretary General

9.35 am: Introduction by Mr. Luc Van den Brande, First Vice President of the Committee of the Regions "The role of the Committee of the Regions to the cities in Europe"

9.50-11.30 am : Plenary Session n°1 : «Presentation of the European institutions at the service of our capitals»

 The role and use of the EU institutions for our areas

 Best practices of lobbying in Brussel.

With : Luc Van den Brande, First Vice President of the Committee of the Regions, Richard Arnold, Head of Part-State Office of Baden-Württemberg in Brussels, Bruno Dupont, President of Euralia Brussels.

11.30-11.45 am : Coffee break

11.45-12.45 am : Plenary Session n°2 : « Which EU projects to make our capitals more competitive ?

 Regional policy of the European Union 2007-2013

 Comparative approach of the uses of EU funds in our capitals

With : Françoise de Panafieu, Paris MP, mayor of the 17th Paris district, Mikael Söderlund, deputy mayor of Stockholm, Jan Olbrycht *, MEP.

03.00-04.45 pm : Plenary Session n°3 : « How to defend the interests of our cities in Brussels? How must Europe be defended in our cities? »

 The key role of each local elected representatives and presentation of the EPP's projects

With : Christian Kremer, EPP Deputy Secretary General, Roland Freudenstein, head of the Hanse-Office Brussels, Representation of Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein, Jos Chabert, Member and

Secretary of the parliament of Brussels Capital Region , former president of Committee of the Regions

05.00 pm : Closing Speech by Jos Chabert , Member and Secretary of the parliament of Brussels Capital Region , former president of Committee of the Regions

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