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28-05-2007



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The President and the Secretary General of the EPP, **Wilfried Martens** and **Antonio López – Istúriz**, congratulated today the leader of Partido Popular, Mariano Rajoy, for the victory obtained in the local elections held yesterday in Spain:

"Spanish people voted for the Partido Popular in thousands of towns and cities because this is the

party which proposes better solutions to the real problems of the citizens

For the first time in seven years, Partido Popular has won an election in Spain. We are sure that this good result will be followed by the victory of Mariano Rajoy in the coming general elections. After three years of a socialist Government, the citizens are asking for a change in Spain".

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