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## EPP calls for democratic change in Egypt

Monday, 31 January 2011



Following the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the European People's Party (EPP), the Italian Foreign Minister **Franco Frattini** and the EPP foreign policy coordinator **Elmar Brok** MEP made the following statement on Egypt:

"We support the widespread calls of the Egyptian people for reforms, urge the Egyptian authorities to refrain from using force and to open the way for a peaceful transition including free and fair elections. The security of the citizens must be guaranteed.

"They should allow the unimpeded use of all forms of expression and communication - including conventional and internet based communication.

"We support reforms towards democracy, the rule of law and social justice. The democratic civil society needs help. Therefore we ask the High Representative/Vice-President of the European Commission to use more intensively the EU Instrument for the Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights."

The EPP Foreign Ministers' Meeting is part of a series of EPP Ministerial meetings such as EcoFin, Energy, Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, Defense, Justice and Home Affairs, Agriculture, Environment, and Transport, organised and coordinated by the Party from its Brussels headquarters. The EPP Ministerial meetings underpin the horizontal activity of the Party with all the main EU institutions including the Council.

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### Note to editors:

The EPP is the largest and most influential European-level political party of the centre-right, which currently includes 73 member-parties from 39 countries, the Presidents of the Commission, Council, and Parliament, 14 EU and 5 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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