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Norway: EPP strongly condemns cowardly attacks in Oslo and Utøya island

Brussels, 22 July 2011



The European People's Party (EPP) has condemned the cowardly attacks in Oslo and Utøya island, which resulted to the death and injury of many innocent victims:

EPP President **Wilfried Martens** stated the following:

"I condemn in the strongest possible way these cowardly and horrific attacks in Norway. My thoughts are with the families and friends of the tragic victims. Although the information of what exactly has happened is still in the process of being consolidated, I am afraid that terrorism has reared its ugly head once again in Europe. Europe stands with the Norwegian government and nation and the EPP with our partner parties Høyre and KrF."

EPP Secretary General **Antonio Lopez-Isturiz** added:

"If today's attacks are confirmed as terrorist, then we have witnessed another assault against democracy and freedom in Europe. The Oslo blast has brought back memories from the Madrid and London bombings which remind us that European values need to be defended continuously. Today, all Europeans are Norwegians."

Note to editors:

The EPP is the largest and most influential European-level political party of the centre right, which currently includes 75 member-parties from 39 countries, the Presidents of the Commission, Council, and Parliament, 17 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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