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Croatia: EPP Secretary General, Antonio López-Istúriz, reiterates full support to PM Jadranka Kosor

Brussels, 27 October 2010



The Secretary General of the European People's Party (EPP), **Antonio López-Istúriz**, has reminded today the EPP's full support to the Croatian coalition government especially to the Prime Minister **Jadranka Kosor** in relation to today's vote of confidence in the Croatian Parliament:

"I would like to express my unequivocal support to the Croatian Prime Minister and President of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) Jadranka Kosor for her achievements and hard work done in fighting the corruption in Croatia, resolving the border dispute with Slovenia, and her impressive accomplishments in the negotiations with the European Union which have brought Croatia to the doorstep of full membership in the European Union.

"In relation to the statements made today in the Croatian Parliament by the President of the Croatian Social Democrat Party Zoran Milanović regarding the support Prime Minister Kosor has received from Brussels, the EPP, the EPP President Wilfried Martens, and myself are giving full assistance and support to the Croatian people and the government of Prime Minister Kosor. As the party with the majority in all of the European institutions, the EPP – also in the framework of our Enlarged Summit meetings - will continue to help Croatia and the Prime Minister to successfully complete the accession negotiations. Needless to say, Prime Minister Kosor will soon be the first Prime Minister to sit in the European Council and represent Croatia as a full member of the European Union.

"Regarding the statements of the leader of the Croatian Socialist party Zoran Milanović, I would like to point out that he often participates in low-level meetings in Brussels with no impact in the EU decision-making process. For all intents and purposes, Mr. Milanović is in Brussels politically irrelevant."

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 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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