

[7] EPP Resolution adopted by the EPP Congress
Rome, 30-31 March 2006

Relations between EU and Republic of Moldova

The recent accession of the Eastern European countries to the European Union, as well as the foreseen inclusion of Romania and Bulgaria will redefine EU's neighbourhood policy. The new border and the new neighbours are not to be seen as new frontiers creating new dividing lines across our continent.

In the Eastern area of our continent, new democracies are following the path of democratisation. While their progress depends mainly on their efforts of sharing the same values with the European Union, the EPP stresses upon the importance of promoting good economical and political relations with the bordering countries on an individual basis, in accordance to each one's achievements in the fields of political and economical reforms, towards freedom, rule of law and market economy.

In this view, the European Union should continue to encourage the Republic of Moldova to follow its democratisation process. The European Union should support the economic and social development of the Republic of Moldova as a mechanism of ensuring political stability and cooperation at the new EU border. The Moldovan government should take the necessary measures of economical restructuring and reform, in order to relaunch the economy of the Republic, and should be supported by EU programmes aimed at reinforcing the social structure and improving the living standards. Cooperation is important especially in the fields of infrastructures for transport and environment, health, border control and fighting against organised crime.

It is in the common European interest to help the Republic of Moldova develop necessary civil structures for a strong democracy and for a well-functioning market economy with individual freedom - and reform the state structures to serve these purposes. In this respect, the EPP reaffirms its support for the Christian Democratic Popular Party (PPCD) of Moldova and encourages other political forces as well as representatives of the civil society to continue to promote genuine democratic values and to stand for their freedom of expression. The respect for human rights in the Republic of Moldova will continue to be a major criteria in the appreciation of the changes that occur in this Eastern European Country.

The International Community and mainly the European Union should become more involved in resolving the situation from the eastern counties of the Republic of Moldova. The current situation is described as a separatist local government encouraged by the presence of Russian troops. While not all Russian troops belong to the peace-keeping mission under the control of the Unified Control Commission, their presence on the TransDniestrian territory is illegal, according to International Law. The lack of control of the activities beyond Dniestr river, on eastern Moldovan territory, both for the Russian troops and for the separatist local government has resulted in reported smuggling, support for terrorist activities and for international crime. These facts as reported by the international press and observers are reasons of serious concern. The involvement of the Organisation for Security and Co-

operation in Europe (OSCE) is welcomed but the only achievements so far have been the spread of information on the real situation. The European Union should support the Republic of Moldova in finding the peaceful solution for the evacuation of the Russian troops and for the political, economical, social and cultural re-integration of the country. In this respect, a dialogue with all involved actors, including the Russian Federation, Ukraine, OSCE and the United States is welcomed.

While international support is necessary to find a suitable arrangement for the TransDniestrian area, the Moldovan Government must ensure ending all human rights violations and promote bold actions towards democratisation and market economy.

The European People's Party shall seek dialogue and co-operation on a bilateral level with the PPCD of Moldova in order to improve the existing links and democracy.