

# Resolution on Albania

Adopted by the EPP Political Assembly on 24 January 2017



The EPP Political Assembly, at its meeting of 23-24 January 2017 in Brussels, makes the following resolution:

- Taking note of the European Council conclusions on Albania in December 2016;
- Recognizing the firm and unwavering commitment of the Democratic Party to the European integration process of Albania;
- Fully in line with the EU's commitment to the enlargement process upon fulfilling the membership criteria by applicant countries;
- Stressing the importance of the integration process as a catalyst in moving forward with key and bold reforms, and the massive support this process enjoys in the Albanian population;
- Recognizing the important role that Albania plays in the peace and stability in the region;

1. Welcomes the unanimous adoption by the Albanian Parliament of the constitutional change related to the judicial reform and urges that all ensuing legislation is adopted in the same spirit;
2. Expects a swift implementation of this reform to the benefit of the Albanian citizens;
3. Regrets the unilateral acts taken by the government at the expense of political consensus, undermining the serious efforts made by the EU to establish a qualitative, durable, and all inclusive political dialogue, as a key precondition to European Integration of Albania;
4. Recalls that Albania is heading for Parliamentary elections due in June 18 this year, a key benchmark to opening the accession negotiations with the European Union;
5. Calls on all parties, the governing majority and the opposition to address without delay the OSCE/ODIHR recommendations, and to the government to ensure that elections are held in line with European standards; emphasizes that vote-buying acts, as evidenced in partial and local elections, is incompatible with European standards.
6. Expresses its serious concern on the Government failure to implement the “Decriminalization Law” related to public offices, as a clear sign of lack of political will to break ties with crime, and calls for an immediate action to fulfilling this key priority, a precondition also for free and fair elections;
7. Deplores the dramatic increase of cannabis cultivation and trafficking during last year, and the failure of the government authorities and relevant agencies to fight criminal gangs behind it. The fight against organized crime and drugs is a key priority to opening accession negotiations.
8. Fully supports the Democratic Party of Albania, and its committed efforts to affirmative political dialogue and resolute action; and notes that proper and consensual implementation of the justice reform is very important for the people of Albania and for the country’s advancement towards the EU.

**If you have any question  
you would like to ask  
please contact us.**

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