

Securing Europe's Future



**EPP
CONGRESS
MALTA2017**



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Who we are



Welcome to the European People's Party (EPP), the political family of the centre-right. The EPP is committed to a strong Europe based on a federal model that relies on the principle of subsidiarity. Through the promotion of the social market economy, the **EPP aspires to achieve a prosperous Europe.**

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This publication is up-to-date as of December 2017. However, political situations are changing constantly, and the information in this publication is bound to change. Please visit our website at www.epp.eu for current information.



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Editor in Chief
Siegfried MUREȘAN

Assistant Editors
Ecaterina CASINGE
Gavin SYNNOTT
Karine MILHEIRO
Eleni PYLI

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Download this publication
www.epp.eu

Questions about this publication
press@epp.eu



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Welcome to the EPP



ANTONIO LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ
EPP SECRETARY GENERAL

JOSEPH DAUL
EPP PRESIDENT

“2017 HAS BEEN FOR EPP A YEAR OF ELECTORAL VICTORIES, POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND BOLD INITIATIVES. BUT MORE REMAINS TO BE DONE. WITH THE RISE OF POPULISTS IN EUROPE, NOW MORE THAN EVER, WE MUST EXPLAIN TO OUR CITIZENS THE BENEFITS THE EU HAS BROUGHT THEM AND DELIVER ON THEIR MOST URGENT CONCERNS.”

Welcome to the European People's Party (EPP), the political family of the centre-right. The EPP's roots run deep in the history and civilisation of Europe and have pioneered the European project since its inception.

Tracing our roots to the European Union's founding fathers – **Robert SCHUMAN**, **Alcide DE GASPERI** and **Konrad ADENAUER** – the EPP is committed to a strong Europe based on a federal model and relying on the principle of subsidiarity.

Founded in 1976, the EPP is a party of values based on the Christian view of mankind and the Christian Democratic concept of society. EPP strives for a democratic, transparent and efficient Europe that is close to its citizens. Through the promotion of the social market economy, the EPP aspires to achieve a prosperous Europe.

EPP is the largest European-level political party, with 79 member parties and partners from 41 countries, 9 EU and 5 non-EU heads of state and government, 14 European Commissioners, the largest Group in the European Parliament with 217 members, and the heads of the three EU institutions: the European Commission led by President **Jean-Claude JUNCKER**, the European Council led by President **Donald TUSK**, and the European Parliament presided by **Antonio TAJANI**.

2017 has been a year of electoral victories, political achievements and bold initiatives. Antonio TAJANI has been elected as the European Parliament President and Donald TUSK has been reconfirmed as Council President. EPP has welcomed Fine Gael's **Leo VARADKAR** as the new Taoiseach in Ireland and has congratulated member parties with electoral successes.

Bulgarians entrusted **Boyko BORISSOV** and GERB to lead the country again,

Sebastian KURZ has brought ÖVP a sound electoral win in Austria, CDA became an important coalition partner in The Netherlands, and in Germany, CDU and CSU won again in the national elections.

EPP has also welcomed four new members this year.

Throughout 2017, EPP has steered the European political agenda in a number of important policy areas. Thanks to the EPP leadership in the EU institutions, the EU leaders have gathered to strengthen and make Social Europe a reality. EPP works hard to put in place policies so that EU citizens are prepared for challenges in a globalised world, so that every child has equal education opportunities; every woman and man can combine work and family; every pensioner has financial security; and every unemployed citizen can retrain for a new job.

EPP has also been the driving force behind EU advancements in security and defence. The establishment of a Defence Fund and closer cooperation among EU countries in the format of PESCO is a clear EPP success.

The Economic Monetary Union (EMU) package follows closely EPP's priorities to make the European economy more resilient and strong. Economic reforms must continue so that the taxpayers' money could never be used again to save irresponsible financial institutions.

EPP has also been the first to outline its vision on the future of Common Agriculture Policy (CAP). The new CAP must be designed to contribute to food security and help farmers face globalisation and preserve the environment.

During the course of the year, EPP stood fully behind **Michel BARNIER**, EU's Chief Negotiator on Brexit, to ensure a successful outcome on the EU's three priorities on Brexit: EU citizens' rights, the UK's financial obligations and the Irish border. The unity of the 27 EU countries is key in these negotiations.

At the same time, while the management of the migration crisis has improved, the EU must continue to secure its external borders and grant assistance to people fleeing wars in countries of origin and transit.

On the external dimension, the future of the Western Balkans and the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries stayed high on EPP's agenda. The Western Balkans are already inside the EU's borders and the EU project will not be complete until they are a part of it. EPP has also stayed committed to EaP members. Both regions must work harder to implement the rule of law, fight against corruption and reform their judiciaries.

In the meantime, EPP remained focused on the future. The Congress in Malta on 29-30 March adopted a roadmap on how to secure Europe's future. EPP has also launched a code of ethics initiative to fight corruption and non-ethical behaviour at every level.

Moreover, EPP is defining its priorities for the EU's next Multiannual Financial Framework. The EU budget must ensure that each euro spent will improve the lives of EU citizens, boost our competitiveness, protect the vulnerable, strengthen EU security, and stabilise our immediate neighbourhood.

Finally, EPP has already started preparing for the 2019 European elections and nominated EPP Vice-President **Dara MURPHY** as Campaign Director. With the rise of populists in Europe, now more than ever, EPP must explain to its citizens the benefits the EU has brought them and deliver on their most urgent concerns.

Thanks to many EPP visionary leaders, Europe is a better place today, but more remains to be done. EPP is gearing up for yet another busy year ahead, ready to serve the people of Europe.

European Councils EPP Summits



DONALD TUSK

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

“ONLY A UNITED EUROPE CAN BE A SOVEREIGN EUROPE IN RELATION TO THE REST OF THE WORLD. ONLY A SOVEREIGN EUROPE GUARANTEES INDEPENDENCE FOR ITS NATIONS AND FREEDOM FOR ITS CITIZENS. THE UNITY OF EUROPE IS NOT A BUREAUCRATIC MODEL. IT IS A SET OF COMMON VALUES AND DEMOCRATIC STANDARDS.

Today it is not enough to call for unity and to protest against multiple speeds. It is much more important that we all respect our common rules such as human rights and civil liberties, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, checks and balances, and the rule of law.”

Prior to the meetings of the European Council, the EPP presidents of the European institutions, EPP heads of state and government, deputy prime ministers, opposition leaders, and the EPP Presidency meet for customary summits which are hosted by EPP President **Joseph DAUL**.



Statutory Summits are limited to the representatives of the Member States of the European Union, while the Enlarged Summits are also open to EPP leaders from non-EU countries. During these informal and confidential meetings, EPP leaders strive for consensus within the EPP political family in an effort to tackle common problems and develop common positions ahead of the European Council.

Four statutory and two enlarged summits were held in 2017.



Summit Highlights



01

STATUTORY SUMMIT

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

9 MARCH 2017

EPP leaders congratulated **Antonio TAJANI** with his election as President of the European Parliament. EPP President **Joseph DAUL** welcomed **Mariano RAJOY** and **Søren Pape POULSEN** in their new positions as Spanish Prime Minister of his second government and Minister of Justice, respectively. The EPP Summit focused on the economic progress in Member States, the reconfirmation of the European perspective for the Western Balkan countries and the preparation of the Rome declaration on the future of the EU. All Summit participants expressed their explicit support for the renewal of **Donald TUSK**'s mandate for the next 2.5 years as President of the European Council. European Commission President **Jean-Claude JUNCKER** elaborated on the five scenarios put forward in his White Paper on the Future of Europe, while EPP Vice-President **Marianne THYSSEN** reported from the Social Tripartite Summit the previous day. EPP Vice-President **Jyrki KATAINEN** presented the EPP position on the future of the EMU, which includes key points being completion of the Single Market, a more flexible labour market, ending ties between sovereigns and banks, fiscal backstops for single resolutions and respect for rules. EPP President Joseph DAUL invited the leaders to the upcoming EPP Congress in Malta and presented the Congress text "Europe secures our future". He also informed them about the EPP Taskforce on Brexit under the leadership of Vice-President **Dara MURPHY**, which has been established to coordinate the EPP's position. Unity among the three institutions and the 27 Member States on Brexit is key.





02 ENLARGED SUMMIT ST JULIAN'S, MALTA 30 MARCH 2017

This EPP Enlarged Summit, taking place immediately following the EPP Congress, concentrated on the situation in the Western Balkans. EPP Vice-President **Johannes HAHN** praised the very balanced resolution adopted on the topic, stressing the importance of giving a European perspective to the countries of the Western Balkans to ensure peace in this still fragile and unstable region. For this, EPP should promote both economic development and the rule of law. All the participating leaders of the Western Balkans took the floor, updated their colleagues about the political and economic situation in their country and pleaded for the normalisation of relations between Balkan countries and more visible support from the EU side in their accession process. Their role in combatting migration was also highlighted. EPP President **Joseph DAUL** underlined the EPP's support for accession of Western Balkan countries as soon as they are ready, which is not the case now, and warned Western Balkan leaders against playing two-sided games with the EU, Russia, Turkey and Gulf countries. EU leaders also appealed to the Western Balkan countries to respect the democratic process and to not boycott elections or the parliament. Other topics discussed were the EPP's support for the opposition in Belarus as well as the completion of the EU-Armenia agreement. PN President **Simon BUSUTIL** closed the meeting by thanking all EPP leaders for their presence and the EPP for having the Congress in Malta, a tremendous sign of support for PN.

03 STATUTORY SUMMIT BRUSSELS, BELGIUM 29 APRIL 2017

This extraordinary EPP Statutory Summit focused on Brexit, taking place just ahead of the first formal European Council meeting with the 27 EU leaders. European Council President **Donald TUSK** presented the agenda of the European Council. Brexit and the negotiation guidelines topped both the agenda of the Council and of the EPP Summit. The EU's priorities were: EU citizens' rights, the Irish border and the UK financial obligations towards the EU. European Commission President **Jean-Claude JUNCKER** stressed the importance of sequencing, while EPP Group Chairman **Manfred WEBER** referred to the official opinion of the European Parliament on Brexit and warned against cherry-picking. All leaders expressed strong support to stay united and hailed the work of EU Chief Negotiator for Brexit **Michel BARNIER**. Any new agreement between the EU and the UK would be a mixed agreement and would need the ratification of national parliaments remarked Michel BARNIER. Furthermore, EPP President **Joseph DAUL** reported on the Hungary debate that took place in the EPP Presidency. The EPP Presidency wishes for CEU issue to be solved and has deemed unacceptable the anti-European campaign in Hungary. At the same time, Hungarian Prime Minister **Viktor ORBAN** reaffirmed during the Presidency meeting his willingness to stay in the political family. LR representative **Pierre LEQUILLER** reported on the outcome of the first round of the Presidential elections in France and the situation of Les Républicains, while Croatian Prime Minister **Andrej PLENKOVIĆ** spoke about the political situation in his country and about the problems at the Slovenian-Croatian border.



Summit Highlights



04

ENLARGED SUMMIT BRUSSELS, BELGIUM 22 JUNE 2017

Sebastian KURZ and **Leo VARADKAR** participated in their first EPP Summit as ÖVP Chairman and new FG Leader and Taoiseach, respectively. **Boyko BORISOV** was congratulated on his new mandate as Bulgarian Prime Minister. The preparation for the European Council as well as migration topped the agenda. European Parliament President **Antonio TAJANI** reminded Summit participants about the need to put in place a strategy for the upcoming years for migration from Africa and to reform the asylum system. European Council President **Donald TUSK** said that reinforced border controls have produced results for the Balkan route, yet not enough for the Mediterranean route to stop the flow of migrants. He pleaded for solidarity and unity from EU leaders in the migration crisis. Chancellor **Angela MERKEL** underlined the need to find a political solution for the migration problem and she referred to the positive consequences on the Franco-German cooperation and on the EU following the French elections. Taoiseach **Leo VARADKAR** set out the pro-European agenda for his country. Also, the worrying situation in certain Balkan countries was discussed and President **Joseph DAUL** pleaded for visa liberalisation with Kosovo. Ukrainian President **Petro POROSHENKO** thanked EPP leaders for visa liberalisation for Ukraine, the association agreement and for sanctions against Russia. PAS President **Maia SANDU** spoke about the controversial electoral law in the Republic of Moldova, including its consequences for the democratic future of the country. The EPP leaders observed a minute of silence in tribute to former German Chancellor **Helmut KOHL**, former Greek Prime Minister **Konstantinos MITSOTAKIS** and former Austrian Vice-Chancellor **Alois MOCK**.

05

STATUTORY SUMMIT BRUSSELS, BELGIUM 19 OCTOBER 2017

The meeting started with congratulations for the electoral wins of German Chancellor **Angela MERKEL**, ÖVP Chair **Sebastian KURZ** and Norwegian Prime Minister **Erna SOLBERG**, as well as for CDA Leader **Sybrand BUMA** for the Dutch governmental agreement, who subsequently provided insights on the situations in their respective countries. European Council President **Donald TUSK** concluded that there is “promising progress” on Brexit though not “sufficient progress”. EU Chief Negotiator for Brexit **Michel BARNIER** asked the heads of state and government for clear guidelines for negotiations to determine the future of EU-UK relations. European Council President Donald TUSK also presented his Leaders’ Agenda up to the 2019 European elections. EPP President **Joseph DAUL** referred in this framework that the EPP will present a Spitzenkandidat for those elections. EPP Vice-President **Dara MURPHY** has been nominated as the EPP’s Campaign Director. EPP Group Chairman **Manfred WEBER** stressed the need for having a workable majority in the EP after the 2019 European elections. EPP Secretary General **Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ** gave an update about the situation in Catalonia following the independence referendum. He thanked EPP leaders for their support for Spain and warned of a spill-over effect, in case Spain fails in this battle against populism. Cypriot President **Nicos ANASTASIADES** reported that no comprehensive solution had been found on the Cyprus issue because of the Turkish position. It was also the first EPP Summit for LR Secretary General **Bernard ACCOYER**, MOST-HID President **Belá BUGAR** and MOD President **Ulf KRISTERSSON**.





06

STATUTORY SUMMIT

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

14 DECEMBER 2017

EPP President **Joseph DAUL** welcomed some new faces at the last EPP Summit of the year: LR President **Laurent WAUQUIEZ**, PN President **Adrian DELIA** and IRL President **Helir-Valdor SEEDER**. Brexit and migration dominated the agenda of the Summit meeting. EU Chief Negotiator for Brexit **Michel BARNIER** underlined that the key for the withdrawal agreement on Brexit – citizens' rights, financial obligations and the Irish issue – was the unity of the EU institutions and of the 27. After the EC and the EP, he hoped that the Council would consider that there is "sufficient progress" to enter into the next phase. Furthermore, a discussion took place about the timeline regarding EU-UK withdrawal and future relationship negotiations. Taoiseach **Leo VARADKAR** elaborated on the complicated situation in Northern Ireland. The EPP family expressed its continuing support for Ireland and it will make sure that the terms outlined in the joint report will be respected. The President of the European Parliament **Antonio TAJANI** reminded that migration is a European problem, which needs a European solution. EPP leaders hailed the advance on a European defence, a project always led by the EPP political family. The Estonian Presidency and in particular Deputy Minister for EU affairs **Matti MAASIKAS** were thanked for their excellent work and there were wishes of good luck for Bulgarian Prime Minister **Boyko BORISSOV** with its first Bulgarian presidency of the European Council.

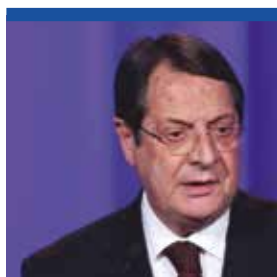


Heads of State and Government



As of December 2017, the EPP has 9 out of 28 EU heads of state and government, who meet at the EPP Summit meetings in preparation for the European Council.

EU LEADERS



Nicos ANASTASIADES
Cyprus, DISY



Boyko BORISOV
Bulgaria, GERB



Klaus IOHANNIS
Romania



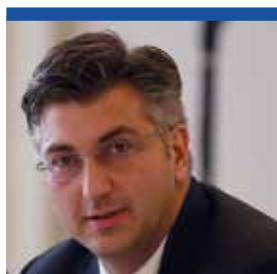
Sebastian KURZ
Austria, ÖVP



Angela MERKEL
Germany, CDU



Viktor ORBÁN
Hungary, FIDESZ



Andrej PLENKOVIĆ
Croatia, HDZ



Mariano RAJOY
Spain, PP



Leo VARADKAR
Ireland, FG

The EPP has 5 non-EU heads of state and government, who are invited to attend the Enlarged EPP Summit meetings.

NON-EU LEADERS



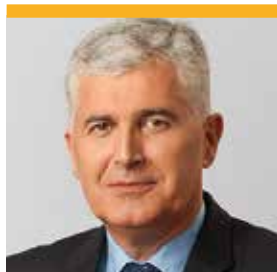
Doris LEUTHARD
Switzerland, CVP



Erna SOLBERG
Norway, Høyre



Aleksandar VUČIĆ
Serbia, SNS



Dragan ČOVIĆ
Bosnia-Herzegovina, HDZ BiH



Serzh SARGSYAN
Armenia, HHK





Ministerial Meetings



01

ECONOMY AND FINANCE MINISTERS (ECOFIN)

Chaired by **Luis DE GUINDOS** (PP, Spain) and **Valdis DOMBROVSKIS** (European Commission Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue also in charge of Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union)

The 2017 meetings of the EPP Economy and Finance Ministers focused on the future of the Economic and Monetary Union. The Ministers held various discussions on the way forward with Banking Union in order to find the right balance between risk reduction and risk sharing. The EPP published a thorough strategy paper on the future of the EMU titled "A safer and more prosperous Economic and Monetary Union". The strategy was prepared under the leadership of Commission Vice-President **Jyrki KATAINEN** and it was debated among the EPP ministers. They also worked together with the leading EPP Members of the European Parliament on economic and financial topics, on which the European Parliament and the Council share competence.

The Ministers worked in close cooperation with Co-Chair and European Commission Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue, also in charge of Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union **Valdis DOMBROVSKIS** and with European Commission Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness **Jyrki KATAINEN**.



02

EXTRAORDINARY EPP EUROGROUPS

Chaired by **Luis DE GUINDOS** (PP, Spain), **Valdis DOMBROVSKIS** (European Commission Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue also in charge of Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union) and **Joseph DAUL** (EPP President)

In autumn 2017, the EPP Eurozone Ministers held an extraordinary EPP Eurozone Ministers meeting and two teleconferences in preparation for the election of the President of the Eurogroup. These meetings played an important role in improving information sharing and in coordinating and consolidating positions. EPP Eurozone Ministers meetings have been organised on an ad-hoc basis ever since spring 2015, when it has been considered an added value to EPP Ministers.

These meetings were carried out in close cooperation with Co-Chair and European Commission Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue **Valdis DOMBROVSKIS** and with European Commission Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness **Jyrki KATAINEN**.



03

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTERS

Chaired by **Sebastian KURZ** (ÖVP, Austria) and **David McALLISTER** (CDU, Germany)

The EPP Foreign Affairs Ministers convened on a regular basis in 2017 to discuss current foreign policy challenges, primarily the ongoing migration and security crisis. Their main work focused on preparing for Foreign Affairs Council meetings in Brussels and Luxembourg. In a more informal setting, the EPP Foreign Affairs Ministers met twice before the GYMnich meetings. The April meeting in Malta focused on the role of the Mediterranean region as well as on relations with Turkey, whereas the September meeting in Tallinn paid special attention to the migration and refugee crisis and included special guest speaker Oxford Professor Sir Paul COLLIER.

In March, a joint EPP Ministerial Meeting was organised with the EPP Defence Ministers focusing on the EPP perspective of PESCO within the future defence and security roadmap. At the end of the year, Co-Chairman and Foreign Minister **Sebastian KURZ** was wished farewell with best wishes for his new function as the incoming Chancellor of Austria.

* **David McALLISTER** was appointed Co-Chair in April 2017.



Ministerial Meetings

04

AGRICULTURE MINISTERS

Chaired by **Andrä RUPPRECHTER** (ÖVP, Austria) and **Michael CREED*** (FG, Ireland)

The agricultural sector faces many challenges, including market volatility, international competition, as well as the upcoming impact of Brexit on Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The reform of CAP was therefore regularly discussed by EPP Agriculture Ministers in 2017, also with regards to the need for its modernisation and simplification. Ministers welcomed the adoption of EPP views on the future of CAP.

Ministers also debated organic farming and the situation in each of the main agricultural sectors, most notably sugar, meat and dairy, the dual quality of foodstuffs in some EU countries and the sustainable use of pesticides. Together with the European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development **Phil HOGAN**, the Ministers discussed international trade negotiations, especially with regards to Canada, Japan and Mercosur.

* **Michael CREED** was appointed Co-Chair in July 2017.



05

GENERAL AFFAIRS MINISTERS

Chaired by **Dara MURPHY** (FG, Ireland) and **Matti MAASIKAS** (IRL, Estonia)

The EPP General Affairs Ministerial Meeting gathers EPP Foreign and European Affairs Ministers in preparation for the General Affairs Council and the European Council. During the year, Deputy Minister for EU Affairs of Estonia **Matti MAASIKAS** took over as Co-Chair of the Ministerial Meetings.

Over the course of 2017, the Ministers focused their discussions on negotiations over Brexit, the refugee and migration crisis, the EU economy, the Syrian war, relations with the US, Russian aggression and its interference in election campaigns.

* **Jacek SARYUSZ-WOLSKI** served as Co-Chair until March 2017.



06

JUSTICE MINISTERS

Chaired by **Koen GEENS** (CD&V, Belgium)

Koen GEENS conducted the Ministerial Meetings of the EPP Justice Ministers with great success. As a family and through strong commitment, EPP was able to push forward with the creation of the European Public Prosecutors Office (EPPO). This will help to prosecute organised crime across Europe, downsizing the limits of bureaucracy and making Europe a safer place. With communication technologies and private messaging advancing faster than laws, the Ministers are convinced that, for the future, e-privacy and encryption must be tackled within the limits of privacy and data exchange. Organisations who combat terrorism and organised crime, that use these technologies, must also ensure compliance with these latest regulations, such as data retention policies.

07

ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS

Chaired by **Andrä RUPPRECHTER** (ÖVP, Austria)

EPP Environment Ministers focused on the ongoing negotiations on legislation aimed at reducing emissions in the industrial, non-industrial and aviation sectors. The Ministers also discussed the implementation of the Paris Agreement, reaffirming their commitment and welcoming the EPP resolution that expresses regret over the US withdrawal from the accord. The topic of eco-innovation as an overarching priority among the Estonian Presidency "TRIO" with Bulgaria and Austria was also on the agenda.



08

ENERGY MINISTERS

Chaired by **Jerzy BUZEK** (PO, Poland) and **Arvils AŠERADENS*** (Unity, Latvia)

Energy Union remains a priority for the EU and was high on the agenda of EPP Energy Ministers in order to provide European citizens with safe, sustainable and affordable energy. Ministers focused especially on the liberalisation of the electricity market, the security of the gas supply, diversification of energy sources and tackling high energy prices in some Member States.

* **Arvils AŠERADENS** was appointed Co-Chair in November 2017.





The European People's Party organises and coordinates from its Brussels Headquarters a series of Ministerial Meetings, which underpin the horizontal activity of the Party with all the main EU institutions including the Council of the EU.

09

HOME AFFAIRS MINISTERS

Chaired by **Thomas DE MAIZIÈRE** (CDU, Germany) and **Esteban GONZÁLEZ PONS** (PP, Spain)

EPP Home Affairs Ministers, EPP Members of the European Parliament as well as Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship **Dimitris AVRAMOPOULOS** met in 2017 in order to coordinate the work between the different EU institutions. The participants focused on counter-terrorism measures as well as better cooperation among Member States in the fight against terrorism.

Other topics that were considered were legal and illegal migration, control of external borders and cooperation with non-EU countries. In particular, discussions focused on finding solutions to root causes of illegal migration and improving the rate of returns to countries of origin. Proposals regarding inter-operability of European and international databases were also among the discussion topics.



10

TRADE MINISTERS

Chaired by **Daniel CASPARY** (CDU, Germany) and **Jyrki KATAINEN** (European Commission Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness)

In 2017, EPP Trade Ministers and State Secretaries met to discuss important topics on the EU's 2017 trade agenda. The meeting focused on the European Commission's May 2017 "Reflection Paper on Harnessing Globalisation", in which Ministers expressed their support for rule-based trade as an important tool for fostering EU job creation and pushing back against protectionist narratives.

The significance of the ruling by the European Court of Justice in May, clarifying which areas of trade agreements fall under EU-only or Member State competence, also impacted these discussions. Ministers also debated ways to continue improving trade and investment relations with China and means to strengthen the EU's Trade Defence Instruments.



11

DEFENCE MINISTERS

Chaired by **Ursula VON DER LEYEN** (CDU, Germany)

EPP is driving the debate on defence in Europe as it remains an important issue for the citizens. EPP Defence Ministers met at the beginning of the year to discuss issues like the European Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and the burden sharing and relations between NATO and the EU. Consequently, for the first time, the political directors of the EPP ministries agreed to meet as a task force to focus on PESCO in order to have first-hand information on the different projects that are being developed by several countries, including, among others: EU digital photography; EU medical command and EU logistics hub.

The EPP has welcomed the commitment of European Commissioners **Jyrki KATAINEN** and **Elżbieta BIEŃKOWSKA** to find ways to finance and further develop European defence following the guidelines in the EPP Paper on Defence developed by **Michel BARNIER** in 2015.



European Commission

The European Commission under President Jean-Claude Juncker took office on 1 November 2014.



JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER

PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

We started to fix the European roof. But today and tomorrow we must patiently, floor by floor, moment by moment, inspiration by inspiration, continue to add new floors to the European House. We must do so now that the sun is shining and whilst it still is. Because when the next clouds appear on the horizon – and they will appear one day – it will be too late. Now is the time to build a more united, a stronger, a more democratic Europe.



VALDIS DOMBROVSKIS

Vice-President for Euro and Social Dialogue, also in charge of Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union - Latvia

The robust recovery shows that our economic policy priorities of supporting investment, structural reforms and fiscal responsibility are delivering results. We should use it as an opportunity to deepen EMU and address persistent economic and social divergences in the euro area.



JYRKI KATAINEN

Vice President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness - Finland

The new EU27 will be different. For it to be successful, European citizens and their democratically elected governments must take full ownership of it. What should our continent look like by 2025, what do we expect from the Future of Europe? This is a debate we should all engage in.



GUNTHER OETTINGER

Budget and Human Resources - Germany

The EU budget contributes to and delivers on the things that matter to Europeans. It helps us face the challenges of our common future. Every euro spent must provide a clear European added value: this is my guiding principle for EU public finances and for the preparation of the Commission's proposal for the next MFF.



DIMITRIS AVRAMOPOULOS

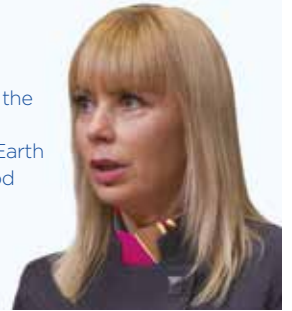
Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship – Greece

Whether it is to better manage the migration crisis or to create a genuine Security Union, we can only move ahead by building bridges, not walls. We must focus on deepening solidarity and building trusting relations, forging a coherent and comprehensive way to both reap the benefits and address the challenges in the long-term.

**ELŻBIETA BIENKOWSKA**

Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs – Poland

Our industrial policy strategy, announced in the State of the Union, was widely supported. In space, we work to maximise benefits on Earth for society and the economy. We made good progress in defence, with the launch of the defence fund. And we boosted the service economy with proposals for businesses and professionals.

**MIGUEL ARIAS CANETE**

Climate Action and Energy – Spain

Less than three years since the publication of the Energy Union Strategy, the Commission has delivered its part in implementing the Energy Union and the main legislative proposals are now on the table. In 2017, we also reached a milestone agreement on the EU's ETS and we presented the Mobility Package.

**JOHANNES HAHN**

European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations – Austria

The European Union and its neighbourhood are facing many common challenges. It is therefore in the European Union's own interest to stay engaged and to aim at stabilising and fostering prosperity in our own courtyard!

**PHIL HOGAN**

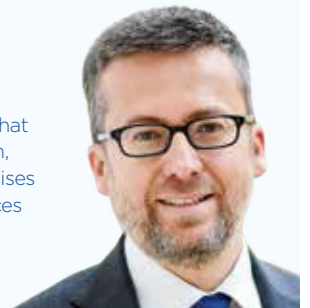
Agriculture & Rural Development – Ireland

2017 has been an important year for EU agriculture, as the Commission continued its work to develop new export markets for our agri-food products while publishing a Communication on the "Future of Food and Farming".

**CARLOS MOEDAS**

Research, Science and Innovation – Portugal

Europe is a global scientific powerhouse. To maintain its leadership, it's imperative that Europe invests in Research and Innovation, as it addresses citizen's concerns, modernises the EU economy, creates jobs and enhances EU competitiveness and productivity.

**TIBOR NAVRACSICS**

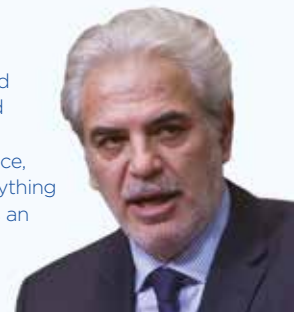
Education, Culture, Youth and Sport – Hungary

Education and culture are crucial in building a European identity and a better Europe for the future. I am proud that we now have an ambitious agenda to make the most of both, and work towards a European Education Area by 2025, endorsed by EU leaders.

**CHRISTOS STYLIANIDES**

Humanitarian Aid & Crisis Management – Cyprus

In humanitarian crises, children are affected the most. That is why, the EU is committed to have education in emergencies as a key priority. Education is protection, a safe space, empowerment and the foundation of everything else. It is a shield against radicalisation. It is an investment in peace.

**MARIANNE THYSSEN**

Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility – Belgium

We have put social priorities right where they belong: at the top of Europe's agenda. With the proclamation of the European Pillar of Social Rights at the Social Summit in Sweden, we have our roadmap towards fair labour markets that are fit for purpose in the 21st century.

**MARIYA GABRIEL**

Digital Economy and Society – Bulgaria

I have the commitment to see Europe as a leader in digital economy, where free flow of data knows no borders; a creative and innovative Europe, a leader in high performance computing. But also, a safer Europe for the citizens. I am convinced that the future of Europe will be digital, united and strong.



European Parliament



ANTONIO TAJANI

PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The next twelve months are decisive if we want to reunite our Union. Europe is a cord of many strands – it only works when we are all pulling in the same direction: EU institutions, national governments and national parliaments alike. And we have to show again that this is possible, in a selected number of areas where common solutions are urgent.



For the EPP Group, the largest political force in the European Parliament, the **60th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome** in March 2017 presented an appropriate moment to reflect on the future of the European Union and the achievements of the past. This unique political project of peace and reconciliation has brought European citizens six decades of security, stability and prosperity. However, the European Union faces challenges both global and domestic. These include regional conflicts, terrorism, migratory pressures, Brexit and social and economic inequalities. The EPP Group, under the Chairmanship of **Manfred WEBER**, together with 217 Members from 27 Member States, is determined to address these challenges.

In 2017, the EPP Group worked hard to improve the lives of EU citizens. On 17 January, the European Parliament elected EPP Group candidate **Antonio TAJANI** as its new President for the 2017-2019 period, showing that the EPP Group is the stable anchor of the European Parliament.

On security and counterterrorism, the EPP Group stepped up its efforts to put the safety of Europeans first. In July, the European Parliament, at the initiative of the EPP Group, set up a Special Committee on Terrorism. The EPP Group also welcomed directives on combating terrorism and firearms and

the regulation to reinforce checks at external borders. As EU citizens are increasingly looking to Europe for protection, the EPP Group is actively working to create a European Defence Union. This union is essential as the scale and nature of current challenges is such that no Member State can successfully address them on their own. On 15 June 2017, roaming charges in the European Union were finally abolished. To this end, the strong commitment and political leadership of the EPP Group was crucial. By working closely together, the European Union delivered a concrete, positive result for European citizens. The end of roaming is an important step in the development of the Digital Single Market, a top priority for the EPP Group. In April, the European Parliament approved the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). The agreement is the most advanced economic and trade treaty ever negotiated by the EU. The EPP Group welcomed CETA as more trade ensures more jobs and higher salaries for European citizens. Erasmus+ celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2017. Reflecting its commitment to invest in Europe's youth, the EPP Group succeeded in significantly increasing the funding for the Erasmus+ Programme by 40% for the 2014-2020 period.

On creating growth and jobs, the EPP Group welcomed, in September, a political agreement

on the extension of the duration of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) until 31 December 2020. In 2017, EPP Group meetings were convened in Valetta, Malta; Wicklow, Ireland; Tallinn, Estonia; Rome, Italy; and Braga, Portugal.

The priorities of the EPP Group in the European Parliament are clear: a prosperous and secure continent that protects its citizens from terror. The EPP Group wants a Europe that is close to its citizens, one that will work to defend Europe's identity in a rapidly changing world. We will pursue these objectives, firm in the belief that Europe's future lies in our own hands and that the European Union is the best instrument to achieve our goals.



For more information : eppgroup.eu



Decision-Making Bodies



The EPP has three levels of decision making: the Presidency, Political Assembly and Congress. The EPP heads of state and government and party leaders can also give policy recommendations, while the EPP Working Groups perform the preparatory political work.



The Political Assembly is composed of designated delegates from EPP member and associate member parties, member associations and groups, guests of observer member parties, as well as partners. The number of delegates for each party is linked to the election result in the last European elections so that parties are weighted according to their strength. This allows the taking of decisions by majority. The Political Assembly meets three to five times per year.

THE CONGRESS

The Congress is the highest decision-making body of the EPP. It is composed of delegates from EPP member and associate member parties, member associations and parliamentary groups as well as representatives from observer member parties and partners. The EPP Congress meets statutorily once every three years and elects the EPP Presidency. The Congress decides on the main policy documents and electoral programmes, and highlights EPP heads of state and government and party leaders.

WORKING GROUPS

The Political Assembly defines the mandate of the Working Groups, which prepare the Party's policy documents and recommendations. All EPP member and associate member parties, member associations and groups, as well as members of the EPP Group in the European Parliament, are able to participate in the Working Groups.

THE PRESIDENCY

The Presidency decides on the general political guidelines and presides over the Political Assembly. The Presidency is composed of the President, the Secretary General, 10 Vice-Presidents, and the Treasurer. The Presidents of the European Commission, European Council, European Parliament, and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (if they belong to the EPP), as well as the Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament, are ex officio members of the EPP Presidency.

THE POLITICAL ASSEMBLY

The Political Assembly defines the positions of the Party between each Congress, decides on membership applications and finalises political guidelines. The Political Assembly also decides on the budget and safeguards the political presence of the EPP between Congress meetings.





EPP CONGRESS MALTA 2017

On 29-30 March, the EPP held its XXIV Congress in Malta at the invitation of then party leader **Simon BUSUTTIL** and **Partit Nazzjonalista**. With 2,500 leaders, delegates, guests and journalists from more than 40 countries, the Congress was the highlight of 2017 for the EPP.





On the very day that the United Kingdom triggered Article 50, officially starting the process of leaving the European Union, all EPP leaders were gathered in Malta to discuss how the European centre-right can secure Europe's future.

—

The Congress featured speeches by the EPP's EU heads of state and government, deputy prime ministers, party and opposition leaders and leaders of the EU institutions, as well as policy debates and a presentation of the EPP Merit Award. Representatives throughout the EPP family, including the groups and associations, debated and adopted sixteen political positions to provide a better Union for Europeans.



DAY ONE

29 MARCH 2017

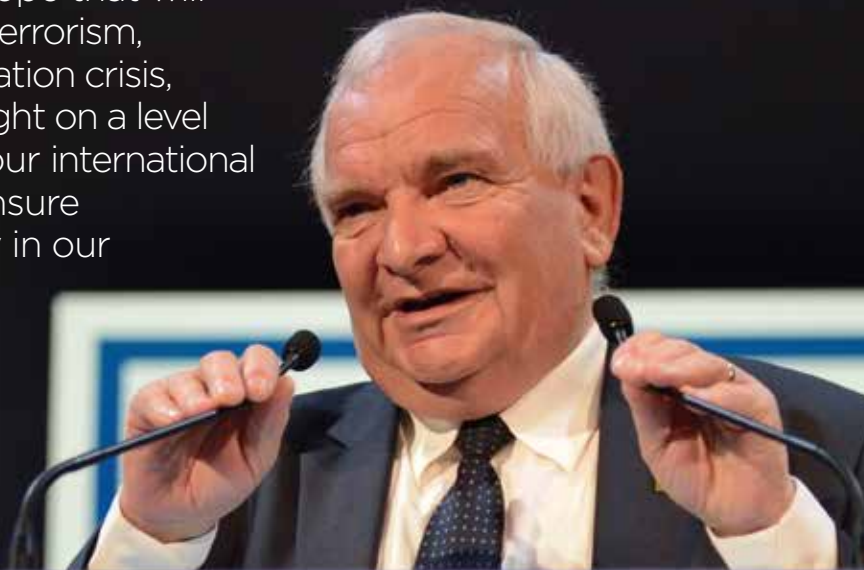
The first day featured addresses by the EPP's non-EU heads of state and government, EU opposition leaders and non-EU opposition leaders.



**"Yesterday, like today,
Europe secures our future.**

It will again be Europe that will enable us to fight terrorism, overcome the migration crisis, return to growth, fight on a level playing field with our international competitors and ensure peace and stability in our neighbourhood."

JOSEPH DAUL
EPP PRESIDENT



DAY ONE

29 MARCH 2017

The EPP Congress outlined the EPP's vision on how to make our Union more secure, more prosperous, more sustainable and fairer in the next decade in a comprehensive document entitled "Europe secures our Future".



Additionally, the delegates voted on a series of resolutions and positions papers:

For a cohesive society: Countering Islamic extremism

Smart farming: Bringing safe food, sustainable land management and jobs to rural areas

Societal Challenges in Times of Digitalisation

Resolution on Libya

Inclusive Growth — Everyone Must Benefit

Russian disinformation undermining Western democracy

Fighting corruption: Our duty to preserve Freedom and Democracy

The Future of European Trade: Traditional values in tomorrow's economy

In Response to Genocide: Relief and Autonomy for Victims in Northern Iraq

Resolution on Cuba and the case of Dr Eduardo Cardet

Preventing illegal migration to Europe

Resolution on innovative entrepreneurship

Resolution on Security and Defence

Resolution on Western Balkans

Resolution on Cyprus negotiation talks

Resolution on the Long-Term Support Plan for Ukraine



To prepare our continent for tomorrow's challenges, a key policy debate on the **Future of Europe** took place with a high-level panel during the first plenary session.



← Following a vote in the EPP Political Assembly, **Rafał TRZASKOWSKI** was confirmed by Congress delegates as EPP Vice-President.

DAY TWO 30 MARCH 2017

The final day's plenary session featured addresses by the EPP President Joseph DAUL, the EPP's EU heads of state and government, leaders of the EU institutions – European Council President Donald TUSK, European Commission President Jean-Claude JUNCKER, European Parliament President Antonio TAJANI and EPP Group Chairman Manfred WEBER – as well as EPP leaders.



The **EPP Merit Award** was presented to Europol and received by Director Rob WAINWRIGHT in recognition of the extraordinary service of all the police forces across Europe that are working to keep the European people safe and secure.



DAY TWO
30 MARCH 2017



**"We are strong and united.
We have a project for Europe.**
But we need to tell it and we
must listen to the European
citizens. We need to reconnect
with them. The EPP is committed
to reinforce the original pact
between Europe and the Europeans."

ANTONIO LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ
EPP SECRETARY GENERAL



Political Assemblies Highlights



23-24 JANUARY 2017

BRUSSELS

The delegates paid tribute to former EPP Vice-President **Peter HINTZE**, who had recently passed away, and to the victims of recent terrorist attacks. In preparation for the EPP Congress in Malta, the Assembly discussed the programme and unanimously approved the Congress regulations, as well as the draft Congress document "Europe secures our Future". Delegates unanimously approved three resolutions. The resolution on "Global Europe – Supportive, Respectful and Fair" reaffirmed the EPP's commitment to globalisation, while addressing the phenomenon of a shrinking middle class. In the resolution on "Digital Europe 2.0. Paving the Digital Road with Gigabits", the EPP highlighted the need for providing the necessary infrastructure and conditions for a thriving digital economy. Reflecting on corruption, crime and drug trafficking under the current Socialist government in Albania, the EPP also adopted a resolution calling on the need to preserve democratic processes to ensure free and fair elections in the country. In the framework of the EPP Political Assembly, a debate on defence policy took place with Assistant Secretary General for Defence Policy and Planning at NATO **Heinrich BRAUSS** and Chairman of the Robert Schuman Foundation **Jean-Dominique GIULIANI**.

29 MARCH 2017

MALTA

Given the worrying developments in Belarus, the political assembly unanimously accepted BCD Belarus as an observer member party. Following the exclusion of Jacek SARYUSZ-WOLSKI from the EPP Presidency, the Political Assembly unanimously elected **Rafał TRZASKOWSKI** as new EPP Vice-President. Delegates also unanimously approved amendments to EPP statutes as well as the resolution of the Congress regarding the changing of the Association into a European political party. In preparation of the Congress, the programme, resolutions and Congress document were presented to the Political Assembly.

08-09 JUNE 2017

BRUSSELS

Following the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement on climate change, the Assembly unanimously adopted an emergency resolution reaffirming the EPP's commitment to the accord and underlining that climate action can go hand-in-hand with economic growth, innovation and job creation. In addition, the resolution on "The Essential Role of Higher Education in Intercultural Dialogue Today" was unanimously approved. Member parties were invited to participate in the "Citizens' Initiative", launched by the EPP, to engage European citizens with EU policies and to encourage parties to reconnect with the people. The Political Assembly unanimously approved the exclusion of three parties for not being viable political forces anymore and, in some cases, for not paying their membership fees. Within the framework of the EPP Political Assembly, a debate on the Western Balkans also took place, featuring Chairman of European Stability Initiative **Gerald KNAUS** and former Foreign Minister of Bulgaria **Daniel MITOV**. Members of the Political Assembly also observed a minute of silence for the victims of the several recent terrorist attacks and in memory of **Alois MOCK** and **Konstantinos MITSOTAKIS** who recently passed away.

04-05 SEPTEMBER 2017

COPENHAGEN

In view of upcoming reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the Political Assembly adopted the EPP paper on the Future of the CAP, drafted by the Ad Hoc Working Group chaired by French MEP **Michel DANTIN** and German Minister of Agriculture **Christian SCHMIDT**. The document reaffirms the EPP's commitment to European farmers and calls for a strong, sustainable and innovative EU agriculture sector supported by fair, strategic and well-funded CAP. The Assembly unanimously accepted European Georgia as an observer member party. In view of the ongoing democratic crisis in Venezuela, delegates unanimously adopted an emergency resolution showing EPP's solidarity with the

opposition in the National Assembly and demanding an end to political persecution. The Assembly also discussed the deteriorating situation in Belarus in terms of human rights, freedom and democracy and unanimously adopted a corresponding resolution. A call for candidates to host the 2018 EPP Congress was opened. Delegates also held a minute of silence in memory of the victims of the recent terrorist attacks, and for **Helmut KOHL** who helped form the foundations of both the EPP and the European Union.

04-05 DECEMBER 2017

BRUSSELS

Political Assembly members discussed and unanimously adopted resolutions on important subjects like addressing the challenges of fake news, the need to strengthen the middle class, the digital transformation, democracy, tackling violence against women and the increasing threat of North Korea. In addition, on the second day of the Assembly, a debate took place on addressing the challenges of populism. In preparation for the 2019 European elections campaign, the Political Assembly decided that the 2018 EPP Spitzenkandidat Congress will take place in Helsinki, Finland. Moldovan parties PAS and PPDA were unanimously accepted as observer member parties.



European Committee of the Regions



The winds in Europe are finally turning after a long period of multiple crises and challenges. Yet, these positive trends are not felt evenly throughout our continent.

Given the different economic, social and environmental features of the European Union, the European People's Party Group in the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) continues to underline that a "one size fits all" approach cannot be the way forward for Europe.

Led by its President **Michael SCHNEIDER**, the voice of cities and regions has been heard over the years, as demonstrated in the 2017 Malta Congress Document of the EPP, which underlines that Cohesion Policy should remain at the centre of the EU's investment policies post-2020. The Cohesion Alliance, an initiative of the EPP Group in the CoR, has been launched to highlight the added value and effectiveness of cohesion policy and to ensure that local and regional authorities' views are taken into account with regard to decisions on the next EU budget.

Following a request from the European Council President **Donald TUSK**, the European People's Party Group in the European Committee of the Regions has focused on rebuilding trust between the EU and its citizens by listening to their concerns and delivering results on the ground. The CoR's "Reflecting on Europe" initiative, which began under the leadership of President **Markku MARKKULA**, aims to offer a space for citizens to present their concerns, thoughts and ideas about the future of Europe. Between March 2016 and December 2017, 140 citizens' town hall debates have been organised in partnership with CoR members and local and regional partners in 20 European countries involving around 130 CoR members and 8,000 participants, with a reach of 20,000 citizens on and offline.

The CoR has already collected feedback from more than 6,000 citizens via its online survey. Following the mid-term change of the CoR Presidency in July, **Markku Markkula** has continued to lead the CoR in this wide-ranging consultation process in his capacity as 1st Vice-President.

In 2017, the EPP Group has led the CoR's legislative work in a number of priority areas from the European Pillar of Social Rights, migration and climate change to smarter regulation for SMEs and bridging the investment gap, to name just a few. It also held two external meetings with a view to seeing how policies are implemented on the ground and gaining a better understanding of European added-value and solidarity locally. The first focused on "Cities and regions developing a territorial-based trans-European transport network" and took place in Brindisi with the participation of European Parliament President **Antonio TAJANI** and the second in Budapest with a focus on "Demographic change and regeneration of our societies".

Last but not least, communicating the EU locally and multiplying a positive EU narrative continued to be a priority, with dedicated events for youth and local and regional media.



For more information please visit:
epp.cor.europa.eu



Council of Europe / OSCE / NATO / Euronest



EPP IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE



The EPP is committed to its involvement in the Council of Europe, an organisation that promotes the principles of the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms. The EPP-CD Group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) is chaired by **Axel FISCHER** (CDU, Germany), together with 10 Vice-Presidents from different countries. The EPP-CD Group is the largest in PACE. 2017 was a very turbulent and challenging year for PACE, which was shaken by a series of scandals and the leadership crisis. In October 2017, **Stella KIRIAKIDIS** (DISY, Cyprus) became the new PACE President. During 2017, EPP President **Joseph DAUL** regularly attended the EPP-CD Group meetings in PACE, where he highlighted the EPP position on the most pressing issues.

EPP IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF OSCE



The EPP and likeminded Group in the OSCE PA was very active this year during the three statutory meetings in Vienna, Austria; Minsk, Belarus; and Andorra. This was especially the case during the annual meeting in Minsk, where the three EPP affiliated Belarusian opposition leaders **Anatol LIABEDZKA** (UCP), **Yuri HUBAREVICH** (Movement for Freedom) and **Vital RYMASHEUSKI** (BCD) were invited to attend EPP meetings in order to speak openly to parliamentarians and explain the difficult political situation they are facing day by day. During 2017, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has deployed several observation missions in countries like Mongolia, Albania and Germany led by **George TSERETELI** (UNM, Georgia), as well as Kyrgyzstan. On 9 November, since the current President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly was not re-elected at the national level, the President of the EPP and likeminded Group in the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE **George TSERETELI**, who was the longest serving Vice-President of the OSCE PA, took over the mandate of the President until July 2018.

EPP IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF NATO



The NATO Parliamentary Assembly, led by NATO PA President **Paolo ALLI** (AP, Italy), had fruitful and exciting annual meetings in Tbilisi, Georgia and Bucharest, Romania. The NATO Brussels Summit was the key moment to understand the new distribution of powers in the world, with a special focus on transatlantic relations, burden sharing, the security resilience of Europe and the developing relations between the EU and NATO. As the EPP is the leading political party on defence issues, the nearly 330 parliamentarians are always taking into account EPP responsible commitments for a more secure continent. The President of the EPP and associated Group in the NATO PA **Karl LAMERS** (CDU, Germany), who was re-elected for a new term in the German Bundestag, will continue to serve in this position and is committed to the activities of the EPP.

EPP IN THE EURONEST PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



Chairwoman of the EPP Group in EuroNest and EPP Group Vice-Chair **Sandra KALNIETE**, together with other Members of the European Parliament and of the national parliaments of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries, met for the 6th Ordinary Session of the EuroNest Parliamentary Assembly in Kyiv from 30 October to 1 November. The EPP, in cooperation with the EPP Group, organised the EPP EuroNest family meeting on 29 October, prior to the Assembly. 22 representatives from EaP countries as well as MEPs participated in the meeting where the following issues were discussed: the political situation in the EaP countries; the preparation for the EPP EaP Leaders Meeting; the agenda of the EuroNest Assembly and the EPP's coordinated approach. A number of reports and resolutions have been adopted at the 6th EuroNest PA, most notably, on "The future of the Eastern Partnership"; on "The deterioration of human rights in conflict zones"; and a message by the EuroNest Bureau ahead of the EaP Summit.

Working Groups / Events



Working Groups are the backbone of the EPP's political work, where representatives from the EPP member parties develop common positions and strategies on major policy areas and submit specific recommendations to the Political Assembly for final approval. A Working Group can also be given a specific mandate for preparatory work for EPP Congresses, as well as for organising conferences, roundtable discussions and other important events.

WORKING GROUP 1

Working Group 1, entitled "European Policies", was co-chaired by EPP President **Joseph DAUL** and EPP Vice-President **David McALLISTER** (CDU, Germany). The focus of the Working Group was to prepare the Congress document "Europe secures our Future", in close cooperation with EPP member parties, as well as our 13 EPP resolutions for the EPP Congress in Malta in March 2017. These documents addressed several challenges that Europe is presently facing and devised corresponding policy positions for the EPP. In the second half of the year, Working Group 1 put forward three new resolutions on the following topics: combatting Islamist terrorism, ethical behaviour in politics, and fake news.



WORKING GROUP 2

In 2017, EPP Working Group 2, entitled "Economic and Social Policy", was co-chaired by EPP Vice-President and Campaign Director **Dara MURPHY** (FG, Ireland) and EPP Vice-President **Corien WORTMANN-KOOL** (CDA, Netherlands).

The Working Group presented two resolutions at the Malta Congress and four resolutions at the Political Assembly. The resolutions focused on boosting innovation, strengthening fairness, how to give everyone an opportunity to reach the middle class, defending fair globalisation, helping people return to the labour market, and supporting the creation of a digital single market. There was a robust focus on supporting people to learn new skills in order to stay in the labour market and ensuring that everyone benefits from economic growth.

Working Group 2 worked closely with the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, the EPP Group in the European Parliament, the EPP Group in the European Committee of the Regions and with the EPP Commissioners.



WORKING GROUP 3

Working Group 3, entitled "EPP Membership", chaired by EPP Vice-President **Paulo RANGEL** (PSD, Portugal), assesses parties which have applied to become members or partners of the EPP. In February, a study visit was organised to Sarajevo to get better insight into the current state of the political play in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Three fact-finding missions to Kiev, Tbilisi and Chisinau took place assessing membership applications from Ukrainian, Georgian and Moldovan parties. During Political Assembly meetings, the new parties Belarusian Christian Democracy (BCD), European Georgia (EG), Party of Action and Solidarity (PAS) and Dignity and Truth Platform (PPDA) were accepted as new EPP observer member parties. On the other hand, the Political Assembly excluded three EPP member parties in 2017 by recommendation of the Working Group. About 10 applications are currently pending from Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership and MENA region countries.



EPP EXPERT GROUP ON DIGITAL EUROPE

In 2017, the EPP Expert Group on Digital Europe, co-chaired by European Commissioner **Carlos MOEDAS** (PSD, Portugal) and MEP **Michał BONI** (PO, Poland) and composed of a diverse multi-stakeholder group, met to discuss the societal challenges in times of digitalisation — one of which was dedicated to addressing fake news.

For the EPP Congress in Malta, the Expert Group drafted a resolution identifying that it is key to put people first and empower them in order to adapt to a rapidly evolving digital society, since the growth and well-being will largely depend on the digital skills and connectivity. The Group also raised the need to quickly adapt the employment and social policies to the rapidly evolving circumstances of the labour market and to prepare our social systems to help the mass movement of people transfer from one

profession to another. Regarding fake news, the Expert Group drafted a position paper highlighting the need to reconstruct and empower the role of traditional media; to improve transparency and accountability of social media companies; to continue to build trust and confidence in democratic institutions; and to considerably improve digital media literacy. To achieve this, the Expert Group proposed a range of measures and solutions to tackle fake news, but was always mindful to ensure such measures would not hamper freedom of speech.

EPP EXPERT GROUP ON MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

The EPP Expert Group on Migration and Integration was co-chaired by Parliamentary Group Leader of the Moderate Party of Sweden **Tobias BILLSTRÖM** (MOD, Sweden) and EPP Vice-President **Kinga GÁL** (Fidesz, Hungary).

The Group drafted the resolution “For a cohesive society: Countering Islamic extremism”, that was adopted at the EPP Congress in Malta on 29-30 March 2017. The flow of migrants into Europe and the associated implications for Member States were discussed during the round table at the Malta Congress. The EPP is especially concerned about the situation in Libya and the unacceptable conditions in the migrant camps. Therefore, during the last meeting, the group discussed possible solutions that should be addressed by the EU with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

BREXIT EXPERT GROUP



“Brexit could prove to be a turning point in the European project. 2017 could become the moment when the EU realised that it had to stand up for itself. And that nobody would do for us what we don't do for ourselves.” - Michel Barnier

In 2017, the EPP started a Brexit coordination Working Group. As part of that work, the EPP brought together key people from the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission to exchange information and coordinate positions.

The work was chaired by EPP President **Joseph DAUL** and EPP Vice-President **Dara MURPHY**.

In September 2017, the EPP invited member party representatives for an exclusive briefing on the state of negotiations with EU Chief Negotiator for Brexit **Michel BARNIER**. The EPP will continue its coordination work to ensure that the EU27 remain united in the UK withdrawal negotiations and in those discussions concerning the future relationship between the EU and the UK.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (CAP)

Co-Chaired by Germany's Federal Minister **Christian SCHMIDT** (CSU, Germany) and French MEP **Michel DANTIN** (LR, France), the Ad Hoc Working Group gathered member parties' agriculture experts and met over the course of 14 months in 2016 and 2017 to develop the EPP's views and recommendations for the upcoming reform of CAP. Each session focused on a specific topic, including the CAP budget, the resilience of agricultural markets, the functioning of the food supply chain, economic sustainability, the greening of CAP, as well as the external aspects and trade.

High-level expert speakers included European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development **Phil HOGAN**, DG AGRI representatives and representatives of other relevant Directorate-Generals, EIB-EFSI Director **Wilhelm MOLTERER**, high-level representatives of stakeholder organisations, as well as representatives of the EU's trading partners, think tanks and NGOs. The Ad Hoc Working Group completed its work by adopting the EPP views on the Future of CAP, a document which was later approved by the EPP Political Assembly on 4-5 September.



MFF EXPERT GROUP

Co-Chaired by President **Joseph DAUL** and EPP Group Chairman **Manfred WEBER**, the Expert Group on the Multiannual Financial Framework

(MFF) has worked, in the course of 2017, to prepare EPP's contribution to the structure of the future EU Budget.

To that end, the Expert Group brought together EPP representatives from the EU institutions and the EPP member parties. EPP's priority is to enable the MFF negotiations to be finalised before the 2019 European elections and have a budget reflecting today's realities, enabling us to overcome future challenges.

SAINT GÉRY DIALOGUE



In 2017, the EPP continued its tradition of organising the Saint Géry Dialogue: an annual forum held in the Brussels city centre, in which key decision-makers and experts discuss topics related to economic policy. The 7th Saint Géry Dialogue was organised on 8 June with the title “Future of Europe – Prosperous, Safe and Global”. The event was organised as an EPP TALK with 10-minute presentations by high-level speakers in an arena setting, followed by extensive exchanges with the present audience and also online. The high-level speakers were Federal Minister of Defence of Germany **Ursula VON DER LEYEN**, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation **Carlos MOEDAS**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria **Daniel MITOV** and Minister of Foreign Trade of Finland **Kai MYKKÄNEN**. EPP President **Joseph DAUL** delivered a welcoming address and EPP Secretary General **Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ** made closing remarks.

EPP TALKS

One speaker. One idea. 10 minutes to convince everyone. EPPtalks is the antidote to long and confusing political speeches. EPP offers thinkers a venue to sell their idea and the citizens an opportunity to engage directly by asking questions and debating with the speaker. More EPPtalks to follow in 2018!

Towards the 2019 European elections

Ahead of the 2019 European elections, the EPP is aiming to strengthen its relations with its member parties, expand the EPP's visibility, reach out to and connect with European citizens.

For this reason, EPP has launched a number of communication campaigns and has set up a strategy committee.

CAMPAIGN MANAGERS MEETING

The EPP organised the Campaign Managers Meeting this year in Zagreb to exchange success stories and analyse new trends about political campaigning. EPP Campaign Director and Vice-President **Dara MURPHY** has also kicked off our EPP campaign for the 2019 European elections.

EPP CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

The 2019 campaign will call upon the best ideas and efforts from throughout the EPP political family. Vice-President **Dara MURPHY** has hit the ground running thus far to meet with the EPP's member parties, national delegations in the EP and various affiliated associations – all in order to listen to them and to find out how EPP can add value to what they are already doing on the ground to deliver for European citizens. Following up on this extensive process, the EPP will host the party's Spitzenkandidat Congress in November 2018, in Helsinki, Finland, followed then by a dynamic programme throughout the 27 Member States as we head finally into a fully-fledged campaign of Spring 2019.



#WEAREFAMILY

#WeAreFamily offers EPP member parties an additional platform to promote their actions, successes, and future plans at the national level. It aims to raise awareness of EPP's large family and increase the visibility of our members ahead of the European Parliament elections in 2019.



#EPPCLASSIFIED

#EPPclassified aims to bring EPP leaders closer to citizens. In candid videos, EPP leaders tell their life story which led them to become politicians. Outside their political environment, EPP leaders reveal their thoughts on today's realities and disclose their unheard stories, breaking away from the image of a distant Eurocrat.



DEAR CITIZEN

In an open letter to our citizens, EPP has launched the "Dear Citizen" initiative with the aim to reconnect with citizens, initiate a discussion on their main concerns and on how EPP can serve them best.



Foreign Affairs



In 2017, the EPP continued to develop a strong and comprehensive foreign policy strategy in order to help in fostering more stable, democratic and prosperous partners. The EPP believes in stabilising our continent by engaging more with Western Balkan and Eastern Partnership countries as well as with those from the MENA region.

However, closer ties with the EU require that important standards be met: the rule of law, an independent justice system, eliminating corruption, good neighbourly relations and respect for human rights and international law. EPP President **Joseph DAUL** was very active in promoting this message during various meetings with non-EU leaders. To effectively engage with our partners outside the EU, the EPP organised several official visits, held events and adopted documents aimed at strengthening our political role in foreign affairs. The EPP's enlarged summits, organised several times per year, provide a unique opportunity to meet with EPP leaders from Western Balkan and Eastern Partnership countries and to discuss with them the most pressing issues in these regions. The EPP also firmly supports a strong EU-US partnership. The EU and the US should constantly look for ways to work together, based on shared values and interests, in order to tackle global challenges.

WESTERN BALKANS



The Western Balkan countries are a top priority for the EPP. The European Union is not complete without them. Bearing in mind that EU enlargement has been one of the most successful European policies, the EPP is convinced of the importance of stabilising our continent by engaging more with the Western Balkan region. Thus, several EPP summits in 2017 were focused on the Western Balkan topic and the June Political Assembly held a panel discussion on the "Chances and Challenges of the Western Balkan Countries on their Euro-Atlantic Path". During the EPP Congress in Malta, an emergency resolution on the Western Balkans was adopted. Throughout 2017, the EPP actively encouraged the efforts made by member parties from the Western Balkans to conduct the reforms needed to keep them on their European path. The EPP supported its member party, the Democratic Party of Albania, through complex negotiations to resolve the political stalemate and to participate in the June 2017 elections. With clear statements, the EPP tirelessly underlined that the fight against organised crime and drug cultivation must be one of the top priorities next to the swift implementation of judicial reform.

During his visit to Kosovo in June, EPP President **Joseph DAUL** supported our member party Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK) for the parliamentary elections of the same month and gave a speech at a party rally supporting LDK's candidate for Prime Minister Avdullah HOTI, together with Party Chairman and then Prime Minister Isa MUSTAFA. Local elections at the end of the year showed that LDK's hard work had paid off by coming in first again, after going into opposition at the national level.

At his visit to Sarajevo in October, EPP President Joseph DAUL met with all leaders of the EPP member parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, stressing their responsibility toward their citizens. The President underlined that much more needed to be done to find a compromise on electoral reform, to ameliorate the education system, and to fight corruption at all levels to encourage more investment and give youth a reason to stay in the country. With the Grand Mufti, an excellent discussion was undertaken on the important role of the

European moderate Islam. Earlier in the year, an EPP Working Group 3 Study Visit to Sarajevo highlighted the EPP's special focus on this key country in the region. In Serbia, SNS Party Chairman and Prime Minister Aleksandar VUCIC was elected President of the country and the EPP kept in close contact with our member party while underlining the need for closer cooperation with the EU and the EPP family. The VMSZ Party President István PÁSZTOR was in Brussels several times reporting on their role in government and the situation of the Hungarian minority. After elections at the end of 2016, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia created a new government in early 2017, putting our member party, which came first, into opposition. The results of local elections at end of the year made the situation for our member party more difficult. In all of our dialogue and cooperation with VMRO-DPMNE, the EPP underlined the importance of a healthy and strong constructive opposition to steer the country towards unity and on a pro-European path. After Montenegro joined NATO in June, the EPP also strengthened ties with Podgorica. The Bosniak Party of Montenegro was invited as a guest to our Malta Congress and applied for EPP membership. In conclusion, the EPP underlined that only by fighting against corruption, strengthening the judicial system and implementing the rule of law, will Western Balkan countries be closer to the EU. EPP member parties have a decisive role to play to carry out these reforms. Only with stronger conditionality on the necessary reforms will further support be attributed.

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP



The European Union maintains a strong commitment towards the Eastern Partnership (EaP). This is especially the case for the EPP, which has been one of the major actors of the EaP since its launch. In light of Russia's aggression and destabilisation of the Eastern neighbourhood, it is even more vital to create a common area of shared democracy, prosperity and increased cooperation in this region. Several countries pay a high price for their EU ambitions, particularly with their sovereignty and security. Therefore, the EPP supports a European perspective for Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia and encourages their governments to speed up the necessary reform process and to further strengthen their commitments to our shared values and principles, such as the strengthening of the rule of law, fighting against corruption and having a strong independent justice system. In 2017, the EPP continued its active engagement in the region. During the course of the year, the EPP adopted a number of resolutions on the worrying developments in Georgia, on its support of the centre-right coalition in Belarus, on supporting the opposition in Moldova and on its support of Ukrainian reforms and establishing a visa free regime. The leadership of the EaP countries that are connected to the EPP family, as well as the representatives of the opposition, attended the EPP enlarged summits, where they had an opportunity to draw the attention of our EU leaders to the most important issues related to the region. With great concern, the EPP has been observing the developments in Belarus, especially the deteriorating human rights situation and the increasing number of political prisoners. During 2017, the EPP organised 3 fact-finding missions to the EaP countries – Georgia, Ukraine, Moldova and assessed the applications from 7 political parties from the region which applied to join the EPP family. The EPP Political Assembly of September gave observer status to the newly established party European Georgia, and gave observer status to PAS and PPDA from Moldova at its December Assembly. The main conclusion of the mission to Moldova was the necessity to unite main opposition forces, EPP partners, and to work together in order to prepare for the 2018 parliamentary elections. The EPP also had a very successful mission to Ukraine, where the delegation managed to meet all party leaders and many key players of Ukrainian politics. The issues of corruption and reforms were among the mostly discussed topics. On 23 November, EU and EaP heads of state and government, opposition leaders of the EPP, the Presidents of the European Council, the European Commission and the European Parliament, the Estonian EU

Presidency and the responsible Commissioner held the 6th EPP Eastern Partnership Leaders Meeting in Brussels. During the meeting, participants discussed the future of the EaP, the political situation in the partner countries and the challenging geopolitical situation in the region. Following the meeting, the EPP leaders adopted a declaration on the future of the Eastern Partnership. EPP confirmed the strategic significance of the EaP policy and believes it is high time to develop and deepen the EU's bilateral relations in a differentiated manner. This format of bringing together, both governing and opposition leaders of EU and EaP countries, is very important for the EPP family.

MEDITERRANEAN, NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST (MENA)



At the end of 2015, the EPP launched its newly created "EPP Partners" status, providing new partnership opportunities for pro-democracy and like-minded political parties of member states belonging to the Union for the Mediterranean. The EPP strongly believes that the solutions to common challenges, such as migration and security, lie in deepening our bilateral relations with countries of the Middle East and North Africa region. In 2016, the EPP Political Assembly accepted two parties from Lebanon, Lebanese Forces and Kataeb, as new partners of our political family. After this first successful experience in the Levant, the EPP worked to further strengthen and expand its partnership program in the MENA. In 2017, one party from Morocco and one Algerian party finalised their application to be granted the status of observer. Therefore, EPP missions to the region are to be organised in the first months of 2018. Furthermore, EPP President **Joseph DAUL** made an official visit to Tunisia in April in order to have clearer insight into the democratic transition that the country has initiated and to introduce the new partnership to political figures. The trip also provided the opportunity to meet with officials familiar with the dire situation in neighbouring Libya. EPP Secretary General **Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ** also visited Morocco earlier this year in order to get a better overview of the political situation and party landscape in this key Mediterranean country.

TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS

As has been the case for decades, the EPP remains committed to a vital EU-US partnership. This was underlined in the EPP's 2012 Bucharest Platform; it is reaffirmed year after year in strong bilateral relations between lawmakers and leaders. EPP President **Joseph DAUL** has reiterated the party's ongoing commitment to a strong NATO, to an economic partnership based on free and fair, rule-based trade and to the common values of democracy, personal freedoms and the rule of law which have united both sides of the Atlantic for so long. In July, EPP Secretary General **Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ** held a series of meetings and events with lawmakers and officials in Washington, DC in coordination with the Transatlantic Policy Network, the European Ideas Network, the Hudson Institute, the Congressional Institute and the International Republican Institute (IRI). He welcomed the opportunity to meet with new IRI President **Daniel TWINING** this past September in Washington, DC. EPP Secretary General Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ has maintained strong contacts as well with the National Democratic Institute, meeting with President **Kenneth WOLLACK** and his team this past October in Brussels. The EPP is also committed to strong relations with Canada and to working with partners throughout the Western Hemisphere to pursue the common goals of supporting democracy, the rule of law and the fight against corruption. The party has been proud to support the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada, ratified earlier this year by the European Parliament and provisionally implemented this past September. And amidst the worsening collapse of democracy in Venezuela, the EPP and its leadership have clearly and repeatedly spoken out against the Maduro regime, calling for the release of political prisoners and the return to constitutional democratic governance. The EPP passed a resolution entitled "Democratic Crisis in Venezuela" at its September Political Assembly in Copenhagen; and the party has proudly supported the successful nomination of the Venezuelan opposition for the European Parliament's 2017 Sakharov Prize.



Communications



PRESS

The EPP Press Department promotes the ideas and values of the EPP political family.

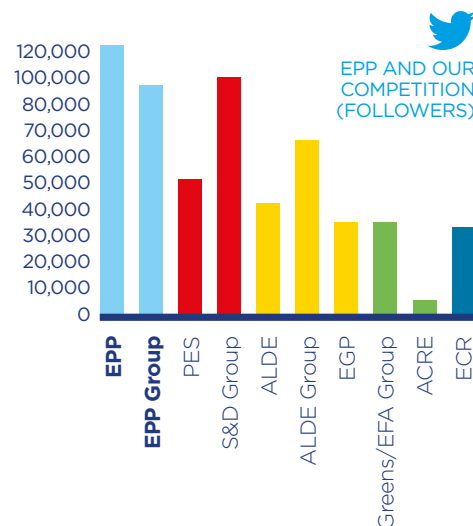
In constant contact with the international and national media, the EPP Press Department informs European citizens on the party's policies and achievements. It designs and implements the media strategy to ensure the best exposure of the party's priorities.

Throughout its day-to-day management of media inquiries, press releases, interviews, articles and op-eds, the EPP Press Department promotes the party's policies and positions to maximise its media coverage. Moreover, it continuously builds close relationships with European and Brussels-based journalists by organising press conferences and briefings prior to, and during, major EPP events such as congresses, summits and European elections.

To build on last year's successes, the EPP Press Department has continued a programme of inviting national and regional journalists to Brussels to meet with EPP leaders ahead of EPP Summits. It has also launched a series of off-the-record briefings for international media and Brussels press core with key EPP leaders on the most pressing European topics. The aim of these projects is to increase the EPP's visibility in EU countries, help journalists better understand the European Union and raise awareness of the party's accomplishments.

In addition, the EPP Press Department works closely with the Communications and Marketing Department on video projects that present EPP member parties and leaders to illustrate how they improve the lives of European citizens.

Finally, the Press Department manages the EPP's Twitter account and organises online campaigns to reach out to the European people.



"THE EPP BELIEVES IN OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY AND STRIVES TO PROVIDE THE EUROPEAN CITIZENS WITH AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ABOUT THE WORK OF THE PARTY."

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

During its third year of activities, the Communications and Marketing Department (C&M) of the EPP delivered high-quality, timely and innovative services to EPP member parties including, for instance, a revamped newsletter and new visuals to promote the member parties and EPP leadership. Throughout 2017, the C&M Department ensured that EPP core messages and values reached all stakeholders, especially during key events, such as the EPP Congress in Malta.

Furthermore, in view of the European Parliament elections in 2019, the C&M Department has been investing more in in-house video production offering high-quality visuals and setting up the highest standard for social media communications.

An important achievement of the C&M Department's activities has been the improved management of the EPP social media channels. Throughout the year, all EPP social media platforms have seen an increase in followers and an engagement boost with our digital audience. The EPP Facebook page has increased its audience interaction with 25%. Meanwhile, the EPP Flickr account has received record-breaking views for its albums of the main EPP events, now totalling an impressive 11 million, and now includes 20,000 photos free of rights.

2017 has finally marked the launch of new communications projects that are substantially promoted on social media and paved the way for the communications strategy ahead of the 2019 European elections, focusing mainly on data collecting practises and engaging with our different audiences. Throughout 2017, the C&M Department has kept the EPP member parties and other stakeholders at the core of its activities by involving them and informing them through internal communication tools, such as the re-designed video newsletter.



SOCIAL NETWORKS

The EPP is very active on all major social networks and outpaces our political competitors in every category!



Twitter account
123,100 Followers

Facebook page
371,624 Likes

Flickr account
10,435,845 Photo views



Get Social with us!

[twitter.epp.eu](https://twitter.com/epp.eu)

facebook.epp.eu

youtube.epp.eu

flickr.epp.eu

linkedin.epp.eu

Structure and Resources



NEW EUROPEAN LEGAL STATUS FOR EPP

Following the new Regulation 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties, the EPP received recognition as a European political party under European Law on 23 May 2017 (Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union on 6 July 2017).

This new European legal status provides the EPP with legal capacity and recognition in all EU Member States. Prior to this, the EPP operated as an international non-profit association under Belgian law (AISBL). The EU-wide legal status was granted by the newly created 'Authority for European political parties and foundations' and is a pre-condition to apply for public funding by the European Parliament as from 2018 onward.

HUMAN RESOURCES

EPP Staff - An international (19 nationalities) and multilingual staff of 31 people is at the service of the EPP member parties and stakeholders.

EPP Internship Programme 2017 - The EPP continued its internship programme with the view of immersing young university graduates in the political life of the EU institutions, European politics and the EPP.

EPP Deputy Secretary General
Luc VANDEPUTTE



FINANCIAL RESOURCES IN 2017

Public Funding - The European Parliament budget for 2017 set aside 31.9 million euros for party funding. 15% of the budget is distributed among the parties in equal shares; 85% is distributed according to the number of Members of European Parliament accounted for by every party.

16 European political parties received funding from the European Parliament in 2017 (in million euros):

The European Parliament subventions constitute two-thirds of the EPP income. The rest of the income is generated through membership fees. Membership fees for the ordinary member parties are calculated on the basis of the party's political strength and the number of MEPs. Membership fees for the associate and observer member parties are calculated by the Political Assembly on the basis of the votes obtained by these parties during the most recent national elections. 70% of the 2017 membership fees were settled before 31 December 2017.

The accounts of all European political parties are audited by a single auditor (Ernst & Young) appointed by the European Parliament. The EPP's accounts are additionally audited and reviewed by the EPP's own internal auditors, Dr **Ingo FRIEDRICH** and **Leif HALLBERG**. The internal auditors present their report and recommendations at the EPP Political Assembly. The day-to-day budget management is performed by EPP Treasurer **Christian SCHMIDT** and EPP Deputy Secretary General **Luc VANDEPUTTE**.

EPP Treasurer
Christian SCHMIDT



EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (EPP) - 8.8

PARTY OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS (PES) - 6.9

ALLIANCE OF LIBERALS AND DEMOCRATS FOR EUROPE (ALDE) - 2.4

ALLIANCE OF CONSERVATIVES AND REFORMISTS IN EUROPE (ACRE) - 2.4

EUROPEAN GREEN PARTY (EGP) - 1.8

PARTY OF THE EUROPEAN LEFT (EL) - 1.6

ALLIANCE FOR DIRECT DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE (ADDE) - 1.1

MOUVEMENT POUR UNE EUROPE DES NATIONS ET DES LIBERTÉS (MENL) - 1.6

EUROPEAN FREE ALLIANCE (EFA) - 0.7

EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (EDP) - 0.5

EUROPEAN ALLIANCE FOR FREEDOM (EAF) - 0.4

EU DEMOCRATS (EUD) - 0.4

EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN POLITICAL MOVEMENT (ECPM) - 0.4

EUROPEAN ALLIANCE OF NAT. MOVEMENTS (AEMN) - 0.4

ALLIANCE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM (APF) - 0.4

COALITION POUR LA VIE ET LA FAMILLE (CVF) - 0.3

EPP Internal auditors
Dr **Ingo FRIEDRICH** and **Leif HALLBERG**



Headquarters / Internship Programme



EPP INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME 2017

The EPP internship programme is focused on immersing young graduates in the short-term and long-term political planning and activities of the party: organising meetings and conferences, preparing reports and press releases, editing publications, communicating with member parties, EPP Groups, associations and other affiliated organisations and liaising with officials from the European institutions.



THE 2017 INTERNS

Martin HARANGOZO	Hungary
Isabelle HENIN	Belgium
Olena ILLIASEVYCH	Ukraine
Giuseppe NAVARRA	Italy
Eleni PYLI	Greece
Nikolaus SUTTER	Austria
Gavin SYNNOTT	Germany
Stefan TODOROVIC	Sweden

EPP HEADQUARTERS: THE BRUSSELS MEETING POINT OF THE EPP FAMILY

The EPP Headquarters (HQ) is the true Brussels meeting point for everyone that is linked to the large European People's Party family. The meeting rooms and lounge host numerous Working Groups, conferences, seminars, Presidency and Ministerial Meetings.

Almost every day, the EPP HQ welcomes visitors and groups from member parties, associations and high-level delegations from our family from all over the globe.

In addition to the EPP Staff, the EPP HQ also hosts the EPP member associations of YEPP, EDS and EUCDW, the Centrist Democrat International and the Forum for European Studies.

Member Associations



YEPP

YEPP is the youth organisation of the EPP, bringing together 61 member organisations from 40 countries and more than one million members. YEPP kicked off the year with a Council Meeting on the fight against populism, followed by a Working Day in Malta in March. In April, YEPP hosted its biennial Congress in Dubrovnik where nearly 300 YEPP delegates gathered to elect the organisation's new leadership for 2017-2019. In August, YEPP organised a study mission to Ventimiglia to study the migrant build-up in the small border town. In September, YEPP held a Council Meeting in Zurich, which focused on direct democracy and enhanced representation of European citizens. In November, YEPP organised its first campaigning event ahead of the 2019 European elections, this time in Strasbourg. YEPP concluded the year with its December Council Meeting in Serbia, which sought to define the vision of the young generation for the future of Europe.

Andrianos GIANNOU
PRESIDENT

Maru PARDAL
SECRETARY GENERAL

For more information please visit:
youth.epp.eu

YEPP - Activities in 2017.

- **7-11 February:** Council Meeting "The Fight Against Populism in Europe", Rome, Italy
- **30-31 March:** Working Day, Malta
- **27- 30 April:** Congress, Dubrovnik, Croatia
- **1 August:** Study Mission to Ventimiglia, Italy
- **21-24 September:** Council Meeting "Representation 4.0", Zurich, Switzerland
- **12-17 November:** Study Session "Policies and Communication for the Future of Europe", Strasbourg, France
- **30 Nov -3 December:** Council Meeting, Belgrade, Serbia



ESU

Since 1995, the ESU is a growing network of seniors' associations from all over Europe. Today, it consists of 34 member organisations in 27 countries. The ESU is dedicated to the advancement of the rights of senior citizens, their participation in all parts of society and intergenerational solidarity. In line with the EPP Congress document "Europe secures our future", the ESU calls for a general European strategy responding to the challenges of demographic change. In 2017, ESU organised 2 general assemblies and held 5 board meetings.

An HERMANS
PRESIDENT

Guido DUMON
SECRETARY GENERAL

For more information please visit:
esu-epp.eu

ESU - Activities in 2017.

- **8 February:** ESU and Konrad Adenauer Foundation "Actual challenges to the social market economy model and possible solutions", by José Maria Gil-Robles
- **10-12 March:** Regional Conference "Improve the seniors' quality of life", Prague, Czech Republic
- **29 March:** Conference at the occasion of the EPP Congress "The future of Europe", St. Julians, Malta
- **24-25 April:** Joint seminar ESU-RSI on "Promoting political responsibility of youth and seniors. Exchange of best practices", Budapest, Hungary
- **30 June-2 July:** ESU Summer Academy "Europe's future", Vienna, Austria
- **28-30 September:** Regional Conference "Security and Trust: the Future of the European Union", Munich, Germany
- **13-15 October:** Regional Conference "Technology and active ageing", Nicosia, Cyprus



EPP WOMEN

EPP Women (EPPW) brings together more than 60 women's organisations from EPP member parties in both EU and non-EU countries. The association is dedicated to advancing the political emancipation of women throughout Europe and the promotion of politically relevant issues which are particularly pertinent to women, such as the role of women in strengthening democracy, the necessary contribution of women in conflict situations, women's issues dealing with migration and integration, and the achievement of equality between women and men. In 2017, the association focused particularly on the future of our democratic political systems. This discussion led to the adoption of the resolution "Democracy, Quo Vadis?" at the EPPW Congress and General Board of 11 November 2017, in Berlin. On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and 10 December as a Day of Human Rights, the EPP Women put forward a resolution on the issue of "Violence against Women".

Doris PACK
PRESIDENT

Hillie VAN DE STREEK
SECRETARY GENERAL

For more information please visit:
www.epp-women.org

EPPW - Events 2017.

- **23 January:** Executive Board Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- **29 March:** Executive Board Meeting, St. Julian's, Malta
- **24 April:** General Board and Colloque, "European Parliament's women's rights and equality agenda 2017", Brussels, Belgium
- **29 September:** Executive Board Meeting, Nice, France
- **29 September-1 October:** Autumn Academy on "Democracy, Quo Vadis?", Nice, France
- **10-11 November:** General Board and Congress, "Democracy, Quo Vadis?", Berlin, Germany
- **11 November:** Executive Board Meeting, Berlin, Germany





EDS

European Democrat Students (EDS) is the official student organisation of the EPP. With 42 member organisations from 35 countries, EDS is the most influential voice of centre-right and pro-European students and the largest student political organisation in Europe. Over the past year, EDS continued to make important contributions on the topics of the fake news, digitalisation, smart cities, the role of young people in local communities, higher education and entrepreneurship. As a member of the EPP expert group on tackling fake news, EDS focused on an essential aspect of media education. A principal subject on the current EDS agenda is the European Parliament elections in 2019. Therefore, EDS established a new ad-hoc Working Group tasked with devising proposals and strategies to engage with young people ahead of the upcoming elections and encourage them to believe that their voices are heard in the EU. EDS has also published its opinion magazine BullsEye, which is available online and in printed form.

Virgilio FALCO
PRESIDENT

Tomasz KANIECKI
SECRETARY GENERAL

For more information please visit:
edsnet.eu

EDS - Activities in 2017.

- **17-19 February:** Policy Days, Warsaw, Poland
- **28 March-1 April:** Winter University, Malta
- **3-7 May:** Council Meeting, Oslo, Norway
- **6-8 July:** Study Mission, Lesbos, Greece
- **25-30 July:** Summer University, Varna, Bulgaria
- **8-10 September:** Bureau Meeting and Skills Training, Brussels, Belgium
- **26 September-1 October:** Council Meeting, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- **8-12 November:** Baltic Trip, Warsaw, Vilnius, Riga, Tallinn
- **14-17 December:** Council Meeting, Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia



EUCDW

The European Union of Christian Democratic Workers (EUCDW) is the voice and official association of Christian Democratic workers in the EPP. Led by President **Elmar BROK**, Secretary General **Ivo BELET** and Treasurer **Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN**, our association is committed to strengthening the Social Market Economy which lies at the heart of the European Union. The EUCDW brings together 24 Christian Democratic trade unions, Christian Social movements and workers associations, providing ground for training and cooperation within the EPP family to build tomorrow's Europe. The highlight of this year was the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the EUCDW on 25 November. The keynote speakers were Minister President of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) **Armin LASCHET**, EPP Vice-President and Campaign Director **Dara MURPHY** and Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of NRW **Karl-Josef LAUMANN**.

Elmar BROK
PRESIDENT

Ivo BELET
SECRETARY GENERAL

For more information please visit:
www.eucdw.org

EUCDW - Activities in 2017.

- **27 January:** Presidium and Board Meeting, Vienna, Austria
- **30 March:** Presidium at the EPP Congress, Valetta, Malta
- **23 May:** Celebration of Rerum Novarum
- **8 June:** Panel Debate "Should the Accounting Rules of the Stability and Growth Pact on Public Investment be Modified?", European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
- **16 September:** Board Meeting, Rogaska Slatina, Slovenia
- **25 November:** Presidium and Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the EUCDW, Burg Heimerzheim, Germany



SME Europe of the EPP

SME Europe represents the small- and medium-sized entrepreneurs of Europe within the EPP family. SMEs are the power cells of the European economy and need tailor-made political solutions. The purpose of SME Europe, which became an EPP member association in 2013, is to shape EU policies in a more SME-friendly way and to bring a new spirit and fresh entrepreneurial breeze to the political debate. SME Europe addresses a wide range of issues, such as the internal market, international trade, innovation and research and fighting red tape in order to strengthen the European economy and create sustainable jobs, growth and prosperity. SME Europe closely cooperates with national business organisations and European policy makers within the EPP political family, with a particular focus on the European Parliament. SME Europe believes that the interests of SMEs are best served when market mechanisms can freely make an impact and the role of governments are contained to allow less, and smarter, state intervention, as these are the best framework conditions for future SME growth.

Bendt BENDTSEN
PRESIDENT

Iuliu WINKLER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

For more information please visit:
smeeurope.eu

SME Europe - Activities in 2017.

- **7 Feb 2017:** "CETA - a Chance for SMEs?"
- **29 Mar 2017:** "SME's, the Digital Single Market and the Future of Work: Jobs and Inclusive Growth in the Digital Century"
- **8 Jun 2017:** "Let's talk about EU Tourism" - European Tourism Associations"
- **27 Jun 2017:** "The Future of Mobility: Solutions for Smart Cities in Europe"
- **30 Jun 2017:** "Geoblocking and SMEs - How to use the full potential of the Single Market"
- **26 Sep 2017:** "Encouraging SMEs to go cross board: EU Project to Mobilise SMEs"
- **26 Sep 2017:** FCH JU: "Collaborating with SME's to make Fuel Cells and Hydrogen an Everyday Reality"
- **7 Nov 2017:** "Second chance for Entrepreneurs"

Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies



The Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies (or Martens Centre), the official think tank of the EPP, had yet another year of exciting developments in 2017, while strengthening its network of member foundations, which now comprises 32 members and 14 partners!

TEN YEARS... YOUNG!

September 2007 is when the story of the Centre for European Studies (CES) began. When it was established, the mission of the Centre was to provide ideas for a reunited Europe based on the values of the EPP. The think tank started off small, with just three people on board. Today, the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies (or Martens Centre) employs 18 permanent staff members at its Brussels headquarters, counts 32 member foundations across the EU in its network and cooperates with 14 partner organisations across Europe. Every year, more than 100 events are organised, developing a platform for centre-right decision makers, experts and thinkers to discuss and exchange views on current issues and to debate proposals to address the foremost challenges facing Europe.



NET@WORK,**PUTTING THE NETWORK TO WORK**

NET@WORK is the first public platform of European centre-right think tanks gathering to debate and advocate EU policies. Experts, politicians and stakeholders from different EU countries met for a full day on 26 April. The day was filled with roundtable discussions, hosted by twelve different national think tanks of the Martens Centre's network, on a wide variety of topics: migration and the refugee crisis; foreign and security policy challenges; EU political and economic reforms; populism and disinformation.

**UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL**

The Centre also launched a new candid interview series this year called "I say Europe, you say...?" wherein centre-right movers and shakers of the European project are asked anything from their legislative work to food preferences, from week-day causes to weekend hobbies.

Another new exciting adventure launched this year were podcasts: the "Europe Out Loud" series features **Federico OTTAVIO REHO** redefining political correctness with the help of razor-sharp arguments and beautifully drawn historical parallels; the "Defence Dialogues" with host **Niklas NOVÁKY** features discussions with high-calibre defence experts and policymakers on pressing issues related to European cooperation on defence and security.

**UNITY IN ADVERSITY**

Despite the EU's official motto "United in Diversity", the bloc is experiencing a profound crisis in which diversity is threatening to dispel unity. Instead of harmony, diversity increasingly spells conflict.

Under the tutelage of **Vít NOVOTNÝ**, the book "Unity in Adversity: Immigration, Minorities and Religion" has been produced as part of a joint programme between the Martens Centre and its member foundations. Initiated in 2015, its goal was to assist the EPP and its member parties in developing a common language on the issues of culture, religion, identity and diversity in Europe. The programme included the preparation of the volume and a number of common projects that the Martens Centre and its partner organisations arranged across the EU in 2016. The book was successfully launched in the European Parliament in June 2017.

EUROPE, GET READY FOR THE MAKERS REVOLUTION!

Held on 20 June 2017 at Autoworld, Makerstown came to Brussels for the second time. It brought to the European capital 50 young and innovative Makers — a new generation of entrepreneurs and DIY experts empowered by Web 3.0 tools, technology and crowdfunding. Part fair, part conference, Makerstown was organised in partnership with Think Young, the first think tank to lobby for young people.

**THE ECONOMIC IDEAS FORUM 2017**

On 7 November, the Martens Centre hosted the 8th Annual Economic Ideas Forum (EIF). The EIF brings together economic experts, EU heads of state and government, European Commissioners, ministers, business leaders and other influential stakeholders from around the world. The Forum provides an opportunity to identify innovative ideas and place them within the policy-making processes of the EPP. This year's EIF also saw the first cooperation with the EPP for hosting the already famous "EPP Talks".

**REFORMING UKRAINE**

Throughout 2017, the Martens Centre continued to organise visits of senior decision makers and reformers from the EU to Kyiv in the framework of #UkraineReforms, a key project focusing on Ukraine and its path to the rule of law, democracy and a functional market economy. Initiated in late 2014 under the leadership of Martens Centre President **Mikuláš DZURINDA**, #UkraineReforms is a project carried out by Martens Centre with the support and expertise of its local partners in Ukraine: Kyiv School of Economics, Ukrainian Center for European Policy and Reanimation Package of Reforms. The aim of the project is to facilitate the transfer of experience and know-how in support of the reform process in Ukraine.



Who is Who Presidency



PRESIDENT



Joseph DAUL
France - LR

SECRETARY GENERAL



Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ
Spain - PP

VICE PRESIDENTS*

* In alphabetical order



Kinga GÁL
Hungary - Fidesz



Johannes HAHN
Austria - ÖVP



Jyrki KATAINEN
Finland - KOK



David McALLISTER
Germany - CDU



Dara MURPHY
Ireland - FG



Paulo RANGEL
Portugal - PSD



Rafał TRZASKOWSKI
Poland - PO



Antonio TAJANI / European
Parliament President, Italy - FI



Marianne THYSSEN
Belgium - CD&V



Corien WORTMANN-KOOL
Netherlands - CDA



Christian SCHMIDT / Treasurer
Germany - CSU

EX OFFICIO VICE PRESIDENTS



Jean-Claude JUNCKER
Luxembourg - CSV



Donald TUSK
Poland - PO



Manfred WEBER
Germany - CSU

Secretariat

As of 1 January 2017.



ELECTED OFFICIALS		SPOKESMAN		STAFF	
→		→		→	
 <p>Christian KREMER Deputy Secretary General</p>		 <p>Luc VANDEPUTTE Deputy Secretary General</p>		 <p>Siegfried MURESAN Spokesman, MEP</p>	
 <p>Sara PINI Deputy Head of President's Office</p>		 <p>Patrick CAMINADE President's Office</p>		 <p>Pilar SANTAMARIA Head of Secretary General's Cabinet and Media Adviser</p>	
 <p>Maite ZABALETA Assistant to the Secretary General</p>		 <p>Karine MILHEIRO Senior Press and Communication Adviser</p>		 <p>Ecaterina CASINGE Press Relations Officer</p>	
 <p>Eleni PYLI Press Assistant</p>		 <p>Ines Elise PRAINSACK-WARD Head of Policy and Strategy Unit (on maternity leave)</p>			
 <p>Patrick VOLLER Secretary of External Relations</p>		 <p>Galina FOMENCHENKO Senior Political Adviser</p>		 <p>Juan MAGAZ Political Adviser</p>	
 <p>Eva PALACKOVÁ Political Adviser</p>		 <p>Juha-Pekka NURVALA Acting Head of Policy and Strategy Unit</p>		 <p>Aija HOTIC Political Adviser</p>	
 <p>Nathan SHEPURA Political Adviser</p>		 <p>Jihan CHARA Political Adviser (Temporarily replacing Aija HOTIC)</p>			
 <p>Gonçalo RAPOSO CARRIÇO Political Adviser</p>		 <p>Claudia CAJVAN Assistant and Policy Officer to Deputy Secretary General Christian Kremer</p>		 <p>Julia LISENS-ZALUTSKAJA Assistant for External Relations (On maternity leave)</p>	
 <p>Yelba TORRES Assistant for Ministerial Meetings and Working Groups</p>		 <p>Pavlína HEYMANS-SPACKOVA Assistant for Ministerial Meetings and Archive Manager, Administrator EPP Women</p>		 <p>Daphné LAMAL HR and Finance Manager</p>	
 <p>Giuliano EPIS Administrative assistant</p>		 <p>Charlotte FRIZBERG Assistant Event Management</p>			
 <p>Matteo ALBANIA Communication and Marketing Officer</p>		 <p>Rok TUS Graphic Designer and Video Editor</p>		 <p>Guy VOLCKAERT Manager of Informatics & Internet</p>	
 <p>Martin HARANGOZO Intern</p>		 <p>Olena ILIASEVYCH Intern</p>		 <p>Stefan TODOROVIC Intern</p>	
 <p>Isabelle HENIN Intern</p>		 <p>Gavin SYNNOTT Intern</p>			

Member Parties and Partners European Union Countries



* Associate members ° Observer members

	AT	Österreichische Volkspartei / ÖVP / Austrian People's Party
	BE	Christen-Democratisch en Vlaams / CD&V / Christian Democrat and Flemish Centre démocrate humaniste / cdH / Humanist Democratic Centre
	BG	Граждани за европейско развитие на България • Grazhdani za evropeysko razvitie na Balgariya / ГЕРБ • GERB / Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria Демократи за силна България • Demokrati za silna Bulgaria / ДСБ • DSB / Democrats for a Strong Bulgaria Движение България на гражданите • Dvizhenie Bulgariya na grazhdanite / ДБГ • BCM / Bulgaria of the Citizens Movement Съюз на демократичните сили • Sayuz na demokratichnite sili / СДС • UDF / Union of Democratic Forces
	HR	Hrvatska demokratska zajednica / HDZ / Croatian Democratic Union Hrvatska seljačka stranka / HSS / Croatian Peasant's Party
	CY	Δημοκρατικός Συναγερμός / ΔΗΣΥ • DISY / Democratic Rally
	CZ	TOP 09 Křesťanská a demokratická unie – Československá strana lidová / KDU-ČSL / Christian Democratic Union - Czechoslovak People's Party
	DK	Det Konservative Folkeparti / C / Conservative People's Party Kristendemokraterne / KD / Christian Democrats
	EE	Isamaa ja Res Publica Liit / IRL / Pro Patria and Res Publica Union
	FI	Kansallinen Kokoomus / KOK / National Coalition Party Kristillisdemokraatit° / KD / Christian Democrats
	FR	Les Républicains / LR / The Republicans
	DE	Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands / CDU / Christian Democratic Union of Germany Christlich-Soziale Union in Bayern / CSU / Christian Social Union in Bavaria
	GR	Νέα Δημοκρατία • Nea Demokratia / ΝΔ • ND / New Democracy
	HU	Fidesz - Magyar Polgári Szövetség / FIDESZ / Fidesz - Hungarian Civic Union Kereszténydemokrata Néppárt / KDNP / Christian Democratic People's Party

	IE	Fine Gael / FG / Family of the Irish
	IT	Forza Italia / FI / Forward Italy Alternativa Popolare / AP / People's Alternative Unione di Centro / UDC / Union of the Centre Popolari per l'Italia / Ppl / Populists for Italy Partito Autonomista Trentino Tirolese ° / PATT / Trentino Tyrolean Autonomist Party Südtiroler Volkspartei ° / SVP / South Tyrolean People's Party
	LV	Vienotība / Unity
	LT	Tėvynės sąjunga - Lietuvos krikščionys demokratai / TS-LKD / Homeland Union - Lithuanian Christian Democrats
	LU	Chrëschtlech Sozial Vollekspartei / CSV / Christian Social People's Party
	MT	Partit Nazzjonalista / PN / Nationalist Party
	NL	Christen-Democratisch Appèl / CDA / Christian Democratic Appeal
	PL	Platforma Obywatelska / PO / Civic Platform Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe / PSL / Polish People's Party
	PT	Partido Social Democrata / PSD / Social Democratic Party Centro Democrático e Social - Partido Popular / CDS-PP / Democratic and Social Centre - People's Party
	RO	Partidul Național Liberal / PNL / National Liberal Party Româniai Magyar Demokrata Szövetség • Uniunea Democrată Maghiară din România / RMDSZ • UDMR / Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania Partidul Mișcarea Populară / PMP / People's Movement Party
	SK	Kresťanskodemokratické hnutie / KDH / Christian Democratic Movement Most-Híd Slovenská demokratická a kresťanská únia - Demokratická strana / SDKÚ-DS / Slovakian Christian Democratic Union - Democratic Party Magyar Közösség Pártja • Strana maďarskej komunity / SMK • MKP / Party of the Hungarian Community
	SI	Slovenska demokratska stranka / SDS / Slovenian Democratic Party Slovenska ljudska stranka / SLS / Slovenian People's Party Nova Slovenija - krščanska ljudska stranka / N.Si / New Slovenia - Christian People's Party
	ES	Partido Popular / PP / People's Party Unió Democràtica de Catalunya • Unión Democrática de Cataluña / UDC / Democratic Union of Catalonia
	SE	Moderata samlingspartiet / MOD - Moderaterna / Moderate Coalition Party Kristdemokraterna / KD / Christian Democrats

Non-EU Countries

* Associate members

° Observer members

= Partners

	AL	Partia Demokratike e Shqipërisë [*] / PDSH / Democratic Party of Albania
	AM	Հայաստանի Հանրապետական Կուսակցություն • Hayastani Hanrapetakan Kusaksutyun [°] / HHK / Republican Party of Armenia Ժառանգություն • Zharangutyun [°] / Heritage
	BY	Аб'яднаная грамадзянская партыя Беларусі • Abjadnanaja hramadzianskaja partyja Bielarusi [°] / АГП • AHP / United Civic Party of Belarus Партыя Беларускай Хрысціянскай Дэмакратыі • Partyja Bielarskaja Chrystcijanskaja Demakratyja [°] / БХД - BCD / Belarusian Christian Democracy Party
	BA	Stranka Demokratske Akcije [°] / SDA / Party of Democratic Action Hrvatska demokratska zajednica Bosne i Hercegovine [°] / HDZ BiH / Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina Hrvatska demokratska zajednica 1990 [°] / HDZ 1990 / Croatian Democratic Union 1990 Партија демократског прогреса • Partija demokratskog progres [°] / ПДП • PDP / Party of Democratic Progress
	MK	Внатрешна македонска револуционерна организација – Демократска партија за македонско национално единство • Vnatrešna makedonska revolucionerna organizacija – Demokratska partija za makedonsko nacionalno edinstvo [*] / ВМРО-ДПМНЕ • VMRO-DPMNE / Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation – Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity
	GE	ერთიანი ნაციონალური მოძრაობა • Ertiani Natsionaluri Modzraoba [°] / ე6მ • ENM - UNM / United National Movement ევროპული საქართველო – მოძრაობა თავისუფლებისთვის • Evropuli Saqartvelo – Modzraoba Tavisuflebisvis [°] / Georgia – Movement for Liberty
	LEB	حزب الكتائب اللبنانية = LKP / Lebanese Kataeb Party حزب القوات اللبنانية = LFP / Lebanese Forces Party
	MD	Partidul Liberal Democrat din Moldova [°] / PLDM / Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova Partidul Acțiune și Solidaritate [°] / PAS / Action and Solidarity Party Partidul Politic Platforma Demnitate și Adevăr [°] / PPDA / Dignity and Truth Platform Political Party
	NO	Høyre ⁺ / H / Conservative Party Kristelig Folkeparti [°] / KrF / Christian Democratic People's Party
	SM	Partito Democratico Cristiano Sammarinese [°] / PDCS / Sammarinese Christian Democratic Party
	RS	Vajdasági Magyar Szövetség • Савез војвођанских Мађара • Savez vojvodanskih Mađara [*] / VMSZ • CBM • SVM / Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians Српска напредна странка +/ SNS / Serbian Progressive Party
	CH	Christlichdemokratische Volkspartei • Parti démocrate-chrétien • Partito popolare democratico ⁺ / CVP • PDC • PPD / Christian Democratic People's Party
	UA	Всеукраїнське об'єднання "Батьківщина" • Vseukrayins'ke Obyednannya Bat'kivshchyna [°] / Batkivschyna / All Ukrainian Union "Fatherland" Український демократичний альянс за реформи [°] / УДАР • UDAR / Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reform
	KOSOVO	Lidhja Demokratike e Kosovës [°] / LDK / Democratic League of Kosovo

Map of Europe



European People's Party

Rue du Commerce 10
B-1000 Brussels



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