



Brussels, 16 March 2006

ROME
EPP CONGRESS: 30-31 MARCH 2006
EPP-ED STUDY DAYS: 29-30 MARCH 2006

The EPP-ED Study Days and the EPP Congress will be held in the Rome Cavalieri Hilton hotel from 29 to 31 March next.

The EPP, which celebrates its 30th anniversary, will hold its XVII Congress on 30 and 31 March. Over 1000 delegates from the 25 EU Member States and the acceding countries are expected to attend. 15 Prime Ministers and several party leaders will address the Congress on the Thursday and Friday. The Congress will be presided by President Wilfried Martens and the slogan will be "Our Aim, Your Europe".

A detailed programme is available on the Internet site www.eppcongress2006.org

"The EPP boasts 68 Christian democrat, reform and conservative member parties from 35 European countries and is the most influential political party in all major European institutions. This Congress will be the ultimate political event of 2006 in Europe and will set the stage for new momentum in the European project", said EPP President Wilfried Martens.

The Group of the European People's Party (Christian-Democrats) and the European Democrats in the European Parliament, chaired by Hans-Gert Poettering, which consists of 264 MEPs from the 25 Member States and 13 Observers from Bulgaria and Romania, will hold its Study Days in Rome on 29 and 30 March. The Group will debate the future of the re-unified Europe after the past divisions and ideologies, as well as the challenges of globalisation and demographic change in Europe. A detailed programme is available in the site www.epp-ed.org

The Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi, several Government Ministers and Italian and European personalities will participate in the discussions.

The EPP-ED Study days begin on Wednesday 29 March at 9.00 and will end Thursday at noon. The EPP Congress will begin on Thursday 30 March at 15.00 and ends on Friday at 17.00h with a Press conference.

Practical information

Venue:

HOTEL CAVALIERI HILTON
Via Alberto Cadlolo 101
00136 ROMA
Tel.: +39-06-35091
Fax: +39-06-3509-2241

Security arrangements

- Those attending either or both events, including journalists and cameramen, will have to provide documentation providing at least, a photograph and date and place of birth.
- **ATTENTION: Media pre-registration is necessary! Please send your registration details until 23 March 2006 latest by Email to Javier Jiménez, EPP Press Officer, jjimenez@epp-eu.org**
- For pre-registration please fill out the form including name, birthday, passport or identity card number, phone as well as title, address and phone number of your media.

Press arrangements

- A press accreditation desk will be provided in the Hilton Hotel. Press accreditation starts on Wednesday, 29 March, 8.30 hrs and continues until Friday, 31 March. Valid press credentials must be shown to obtain your pre-registered press badges.
- An interview room will be at your disposal, bookings can be arranged on site during the Study Days and the Congress.
- A press working room will be at your disposal, equipped with telephone and fax lines. We will not provide Internet connections, but 20 analog modem lines will be at your disposal to hook up laptops.
- A certain number of seats have been reserved for the media inside the Congress room, the proceedings of the EPP Congress will also be broadcast via TV screens in the press room and at various other locations in the Congress area.

- A platform for TV cameras inside the Congress room will be available on a 'first come, first served' basis.
- Additionally, camera feeds will be provided with 15 slots in the congress room and additional 25 slots in the press room to take off Congress proceedings (technical information on request).
- On request we will provide beta quality video copies of speeches and Congress proceedings. Arrangements to be made on site.
- From their office in Rome (Via della Conciliazione), RAI-EBU can provide playout facilities (Beta Sp/Sx) as well as a stand up position for live feeds or interviews, plus editing on request. In case of sufficient interest RAI-EBU could also provide a satellite station/SNG for playout (Beta Sp/Sx) or stand up position for interviews at the Hilton Hotel. Costs will be according to international rate card. (Contact Mr. Aldo Pellegrini, RAI, Tel.: +39-06-33170052-70053, Fax: +39-06-33171151, Email: internationalprod@rai.it)
- Congress documents, press releases and speeches (if available) will be put at your disposal in the press room.
- Photos of the EPP-ED Study Days and the EPP Congress will be at your disposal in printable quality and free of charge both on the EPP-ED Website (www.epp-ed.org) and on the EPP Congress Website (www.eppcongress2006.org).

For further information on the Study Days and the Congress, please contact any of the press officers (find attached), or

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