



**GROUP OF THE
EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS
IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

25 April 1997

**Meeting of the EPP Group Bureau
in cooperation with the Robert Schuman Foundation
28-30 April 1997
Conference Centre, Meran Room
MERAN/MERANO SOUTH TYROL/ITALY**

Monday, 28 April 1997 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

- 5 p.m. Welcome and introduction: Wilfried MARTENS, Chairman of the EPP and of the EPP Group in the EP.
- 5.30 p.m. Welcome speech: Luis DURNWALDER; Head of Government of the Province of South Tyrol, Bozen/Bolzano, South Tyrol/I.
- 6 p.m. Introductory talk by Prof. Christoph PAN, Ethnic Institut of South Tyrol Bozen/Bolzano - I: "The problem of nationalities - an old issue in a new Europe".
- 8 p.m. Dinner at the invitation of the EPP Group

Tuesday, 29 April 1997

9 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. WESTERN EUROPE: SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLES OF THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS

In the chair : Carlos ROBLES PIQUER, Vice-President of the EPP Group

- Horst LANGES, President of the Robert Schuman Foundation
- Franz ALBER, Mayor of Meran
- Michl EBNER, MEP, Bozen/Bolzano - South Tyrol/I: "Autonomy of South Tyrol in Italy"
- Luciano CAVERI, MP, Aosta/I: "Autonomy of the region of the Aosta Valley in Italy"
- Manuel FRAGA IRIBARNE, President of the autonomous Community of Galicia: "Galicia : autonomous Community of Spain"
- Mathieu GROSCH, MEP, Kelmis, Belgium
- Prof. Rudolf KERN, Leuven/Louvain/BE: "Dynamics and balance in the language communities in Belgium: the situation following the constitutional reform of 1993"

11.30 a.m. Discussion

1 p.m. Buffet at the invitation of the Head of Government of the Province of South Tyrol

3 p.m. - 5.45 p.m. ROUND TABLE: EASTERN EUROPE: AREAS OF TENSION AND CONFLICT

In the chair : Reinhard RACK, Vice-President of the EPP Group

3 p.m. - Miklos DURAY, MP:
"Hungarian minorities in central eastern Europe, notably in the Slovak republic"

- Roberto BATTELLI, MP, Koper/SLO:
"The Italian minorities in Slovenia and Croatia"

- Mrs. Doris PACK, MEP, Saarbrücken/D:
"The situation of minorities in Serbia and Croatia"

- Boris TSILEVICH, Riga/LV:
"Russian minorities in the Baltic states"

5 p.m. - 5.45 p.m. Discussion

6 p.m. Departure for Klobenstein, Ritten

8 p.m. Dinner

Wednesday, 30 April 1997

9 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. SECURITY RISKS, INTEGRATION AND THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

In the chair : Hans-Gert POETTERING, Vice-President of the EPP Group

- Bernd POSSELT, MEP, Munich/D:
"The EU's contribution to the resolution of the problem of nationalities"

- Panayotis LAMBRIAS, Vice-President of the EPP Group
"Obstacles to integration of minorities"

- Frans TIMMERMANS
Adviser to the High Commissioner on National Minorities - OSCE

- Prof. Asbjorn EIDE, Oslo/N:
"The issue of nationalities within the UN"

10.30 a.m. Discussion

12 noon Conclusions