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YEPP Resolution:

Condemning the massive electoral fraud in the Presidential Elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo and widespread violence against political opponents

Adopted at the YEPP Seminar in Budapest, Hungary on February 25 2012

Recognizing that:

- The presidential elections which took place in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on 28 November 2011 have raised allegations of massive fraud;
- The existence of serious irregularities was confirmed by independent election monitoring organisations such as the Carter Center, the EU Electoral Observation Mission and the National Episcopal Conference of Congo (CENCO);
- The three above mentioned organisations claimed that the serious irregularities did put into question the accuracy of the official results;
- The National Independent Electoral Commission of DRC (CENI) did not publish any original copy of the polling station results (although the number of polling stations amounted to some 63,865);
- President Joseph Kabila, who was officially declared winner of these elections, admitted himself that there had been irregularities in the electoral process;
- In many constituencies of the Katanga Province, both the participation rates and the results favorable to Joseph Kabila reached unrealistic percentages;
- According to many observers, the DRC state forces used widespread violence against political opponents since the start of the electoral campaign, and blocked main opponent Etienne Tshisekedi, leader of UDPS in his Kinshasa residence;

Acknowledging that:

- The EU institutions and EU Member States have condemned the irregularities in the electoral process but did not ask the CENI to publish the original copies of the polling votes;
- The EU support of the political and economic development of the DRC as well as good bilateral relations must rely on common values such as democracy and the protection of human rights;

YEPP calls on:

- The EU and its Member States and the African Union to condemn the massive fraud in the presidential elections in the DRC and the violence used by the police and the army against political opponents;
- EU High Representative Catherine Ashton to urge the DRC government to stop using the violence against political opponents;
- The CENI to publish the original copies of polling stations, for the presidential elections as well as for the legislative elections.