



Resolution on NATO and EU Enlargement

Initiated by Andrei Marinescu - YEPP

The Youth of the European People's Party welcomes the NATO enlargement that will take place on the 2nd of April, when seven countries from Central and Eastern Europe will officially become members of the alliance.

Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia, will enhance Europe's position within NATO and will strengthen the alliance, making Europe more influential and more effective on the world stage.

NATO is about security - and we are in an age where terrorism has gone from being a domestic problem to a matter of national and international security. This means that the Alliance has a key role to play in meeting this challenge, today and in the future. The more united we'll stand the more efficient our role to fight terrorism, defend the peace and the values our societies are based on.

YEPP also welcomes the historical EU Enlargement on the 1st of May that will bring ten new countries into the "Union of values". The fifth wave of enlargement since the EU was created, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia, will raise the number of EU states to 25, with a population of over 450 million,

Enlargement is more than a selection process. Managing enlargement also means keeping the door open for future members.

YEPP strongly supports the integration of Bulgaria and Romania in 2007 as scheduled, stressing that more efforts have to be made to overcome the difficulties in the reform process in order to completely fulfill the accession criteria. Also Norway, Croatia, Switzerland and the states from South-Eastern Europe have to find their path towards the integration in the EU family.

EU and NATO share the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. As young Europeans we are convinced that NATO and EU enlargement will succeed in bringing more safety and prosperity to Europe's citizens.