



Fraktion der Europäischen Volkspartei (Christdemokraten) im Europäischen Parlament
Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) in the European Parliament
Groupe du Parti Populaire Européen (Démocrates-Chrétiens) au Parlement européen

Neighbourhood Policy and Intercultural Dialogue

Brussels, 10 October 2013
PL/gt/ak

THE 16th EPP GROUP ANNUAL INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

RELIGIONS IN THE PROCESSES OF PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

17 - 18 October 2013

THE HILTON CYPRUS HOTEL

NICOSIA
REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

PROGRAM

Wednesday, 16 October

- 19.00 Arrival at airport at the latest (bus transfer to the Hilton Cyprus Hotel, Nicosia)
- 21.00 Dinner at the **Hilton Cyprus Hotel**
(Venue: Archbishop Makarios III Avenue, 1516 Nicosia; Phone +357-22-377-777)

Thursday, 17 October

09.00 Welcome addresses

- **Jan OLBRYCHT MEP**, Vice Chairman of the EPP Group in the European Parliament
- **Eleni THEOCHAROUS MEP**, Member of the EPP Group in the EP, Head of the Cypriot Delegation of the EPP Group

Opening

- **Ioannis KASOULIDES**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus, former Vice-Chairman of the EPP Group
- **H.B. Archbishop CHRYSOSTOMOS II**, Archbishop of Nova Justiniana and All Cyprus, Church of Cyprus

09.30

Session One

The dialogue among Christians, Muslims and Jewish for peace in the Mediterranean

Chair: **Jan OLBRYCHT MEP**, Vice-Chairman of the EPP Group, Responsible for Intercultural Activities and Interreligious Dialogue

Key speakers:

- **Marietta GIANNAKOU MEP**, Member of the EPP Group in the EP, Head of the Greek Delegation of the EPP Group
- **H.E. Metropolitan EMMANUEL**, Archbishop of France, Representative of the Ecumenical Patriarch to the EU and Vice-President of the Conference of European Churches
- **Rabbi Arie Zeev RASKIN**, Chief Rabbi of Cyprus
- **H.E. Archbishop Youssef SOUEIF**, Maronite Eparchy of Cyprus
- **Grand Mufti Sheik Mohammed Rashid Qabbani**, Grand Mufti of Lebanon (tbc)
- **Dr. Timo GÜZELMANSUR**, Director of the Center for Christian-Islamic Dialogue and Understanding, German Bishops' Conference

Debate

11.00

Session Two

Fundamentalism as a factor of political destabilization

Chair: **Jaime MAYOR OREJA MEP**, Vice-Chairman of the EPP Group in the EP, Responsible for Political Strategy and European Ideas Network

Guest speaker: **Tasos MITSOPOULOS**, Minister of Communications and Works of the Republic of Cyprus

Key speakers:

- **Elmar BROK MEP**, Member of the EPP Group, Chairman of the EP committee on Foreign Affairs
- **H.E. Archbishop Seraphim KYKKOTIS**, Metropolitan of the Greek Archbishopric of Zimbabwe, Head of the Office for International Affairs of the Greek Patriarchate of Alexandria and all Africa
- **H.E. Bishop Dr. Elias TOUMEH**, Representative of the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East
- **H.E. Bishop Kyrillos Kamal William SAMAAN O.F.M.**, Coptic Catholic Bishop of Assiut, Egypt
- **Dr. Stefan GEHROLD**, Head of Brussels Office, Konrad Adenauer Foundation
- **Dr. Yousef BATAINEH**, Director of the European Affairs department in Ministry of Foreign Affairs and expatriates in Jordan

Debate

12.30 **Lunch hosted by the EPP Group**

Special Guest: **Nicos ANASTASIADES**, President of the Republic of Cyprus

Venue: 'Kantara' Restaurant inside the Hilton Cyprus Hotel

14.00 Departure of Buses for historical visit

14.30 Historical walking tour of Old Nicosia

16.00 Departure of buses to Hilton Cyprus Hotel

16.30 **Session Three**

Protection of religious heritages as signs of civilization

Chair: **László SURJÁN MEP**, Member of the EPP Group in the EP, Vice-President of the EP, Responsible for Dialogue with Religions

Guest speaker: **Kyriakos KENEVEZOS**, Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Cyprus

Key speakers:

- **Miroslav MIKOLÁSIK MEP**, Member of the EPP Group in the EP
- **Eleni THEOCHAROUS MEP**, Member of the EPP Group in the EP, Head of the Cypriot Delegation of the EPP Group
- **H.E. Archbishop Varoujan HERGELIAN**, Armenian Archbishop of Cyprus (tbc)
- **Marek ZAJAC**, Journalist of the Polish Television TVP
- **Regina LYNCH**, Director of projects, Aid to Church in Need International

Debate

18.00 **Session Four**

Coexistence of religions and political stability

Chair: **Vito BONSIGNORE MEP**, Vice-Chairman of the EPP Group, Responsible for the Euro-Mediterranean Group Strategy

Key speakers:

- **Alojz PETERLE MEP**, Member of the EPP Group in the EP
- **Rev. Ziad HILAL SJ**, Jesuit Refugee Service 'Middle East and North Africa', Homs, Syria
- **Prof. Dr. Fatimah HUSEIN**, Islamic State University of Sunan Kalijaga, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- **Dr. Michal GÓRA**, Adam Smith Research Centre, Warsaw
- **Maroun KARAM**, Representative of the Maronite Community, Beirut, Lebanon

Debate

19.30 End of Sessions

20.00 Bus transfer to 'Paragadi' Restaurant

20.30 **Dinner hosted by the EPP Group**

Special Guest: **Averof NEOPHYTOU**, Leader of the Democratic Rally (DISY)

(Venue: 'Paragadi' Restaurant, 3 Niovis Street, Ayioi Omologites, 1086 Nicosia)

22.30 Bus transfer to the Hilton Cyprus Hotel

Friday, 18 October

09.30 **Session Five**

Future Challenges

Chair: **Manfred WEBER MEP**, Vice-Chairman of the EPP Group, Responsible for the permanent Working Group on Legal and Home Affairs

Guest speaker: **Ioannis KASOULIDES**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus, former Vice-Chairman of the EPP Group

Key speakers:

- **Carlo CASINI MEP**, Member of the EPP Group, Chairman of the EP committee on Constitutional Affairs
- **Eija-Riitta KORHOLA MEP**, Member of the EPP Group, Member of the Bureau
- **H. B. Patriarch Mar Béchara Boutros RAÏ**, Maronite Patriarch of Antioch
- **Rabbi Levi MATUSOF**, Director of European Jewish Public Affairs, Brussels
- **H.E. Bishop Tadeusz PIERONEK**, Bishop Emeritus and Professor, Cracow

Debate

11.30 **Concluding remarks of the conference**

Jan OLBRYCHT MEP, Vice-Chairman of the EPP Group, Responsible for Interreligious Dialogue and Intercultural Activities

12.00 **Lunch**

14.00 **Bus transfer to the Airport**

Afternoon Optional Program

14:30 Departure of Buses to visit the Northern occupied part of the island organised by **Ms Eleni THEOCHAROUS MEP and Mr Reimer BÖGE MEP** (tbc).

Working languages: DE, EL, EN, ES, IT, PL, AR
FR passive

Venue: Hilton Cyprus Hotel, Archbishop Makarios III Avenue, 1516 Nicosia; Phone +357-22-377-777