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EPP GROUP
IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



The EPP Group Structure

Founded as the Christian - Democratic Group on 23 June 1953 as a faction in the Common Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community, the Group changed its name to the 'Group of the European People's Party' (Christian-Democratic Group) in July 1979, just after the first direct elections to the European Parliament, and to the 'Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats' in July 1999. After the European elections in 2009, the Group went back to its roots as the '**Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)**'. It has always played a leading role in the construction of Europe.

The Chairman of the EPP Group is **Manfred Weber** MEP. He chairs its governing bodies and speaks for the Group in keynote debates during the Plenary Sessions at the European Parliament. He is supported by coordinators on each of the Parliament's committees and by heads of the national delegations represented in the Group. The operational needs of the Group are serviced by a Group secretariat, providing policy and organisational support. The Group runs its own think-tank - the European Ideas Network - which brings together opinion-formers from the worlds of politics, business, academia and civic society across Europe, to discuss the major policy issues facing the European Union.

DESCRIPTION

With 220 Members the EPP Group is by far the largest political Group in the European Parliament. Its membership is made up of:

- 34 Members from **Germany**
- 23 Members from **Poland**
- 20 Members from **France**
- 17 Members from **Spain**
- 17 Members from **Italy**
- 14 Members from **Romania**
- 12 Members from **Hungary**
- 7 Members from **Bulgaria**
- 7 Members from **Czech Republic**
- 7 Members from **Portugal**
- 6 Members from **Slovakia**
- 5 Members from **Greece**
- 5 Members from **Austria**
- 5 Members from **Croatia**
- 5 Members from **Netherlands**
- 5 Members from **Slovenia**
- 4 Members from **Belgium**
- 4 Members from **Ireland**
- 4 Members from **Latvia**
- 4 Members from **Sweden**
- 3 Members from **Luxembourg**
- 3 Members from **Malta**
- 3 Members from **Finland**
- 2 Members from **Cyprus**
- 2 Members from **Lithuania**
- 1 Member from **Denmark**
- 1 Member from **Estonia**

THE BUREAU

The Bureau, the Group's political organ, consists of:

- > **The Members of the Presidency**
- > **The Heads of National Delegations**
- > **The Vice-Presidents and Quaestors of the European Parliament** belonging to the Group
- > **The Chairmen of Parliamentary Committees** belonging to the Group
- > **The Coordinator within each of the Standing Committees**
- > **The Chairman and the Secretary-General of the European People's Party**, if they are Members of the European Parliament
- > **One co-opted Member** for every 10 Members of a national delegation

THE FOUR WORKING GROUPS

The EPP Group's political strategy is formulated in the framework of four Working Groups which coordinate its members' parliamentary work in the 22 committees or subcommittees.

Their conclusions are made known to the Group, which then decides what position to adopt in plenary sessions of the European Parliament.

Below, in detail, are the areas of responsibility of the Working Groups and of their respective Chair:

Jacek Saryusz-Wolski

Working Group "Foreign Affairs"

- > Committee on Foreign Affairs
- > Subcommittee on Human Rights
- > Subcommittee on Security and Defence
- > Committee on Development
- > Committee on International Trade

Marian Jean Marinescu

Working Group "Budget and Structural Policies"

- > Committee on Budgets
- > Committee on Budgetary Control
- > Committee on Regional Development
- > Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
- > Committee on Fisheries

Françoise Grossetête

Working Group "Economy and Environment"

- > Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
- > Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
- > Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
- > Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
- > Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection
- > Committee on Transport and Tourism

Esteban González Pons

Working Group "Legal and Home Affairs"

- > Committee on Legal Affairs
- > Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
- > Committee on Constitutional Affairs
- > Committee on Culture and Education
- > Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
- > Committee on Petitions

The Presidency



Manfred Weber
Chairman



Mariya Gabriel
Vice-Chairwoman
Mediterranean Union and Euromed



Françoise Grossetête
Vice-Chairwoman
Working Group Economy and Environment



Lara Comi
Vice-Chairwoman
Communication Strategy,
EPP Youth Strategy



Esteban González Pons
Vice-Chairman
Working Group Legal and Home Affairs



Sandra Kalniete
Vice-Chairwoman
Neighbourhood Policy and Euronest,
European Values



Esther de Lange
Vice-Chairwoman
Relations with National Parliaments



Paulo Rangel
Vice-Chairman
EIN / Future of Europe / Treasurer



József Szájer
Vice-Chairman
Parliamentary Work

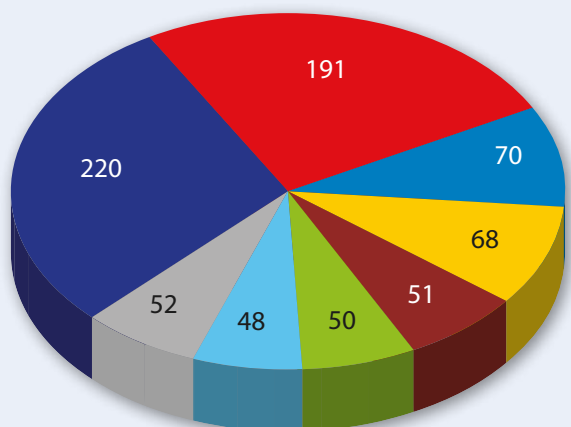


Marian Jean Marinescu
Vice-Chairman
Working Group Budget and Structural Policies



Jacek Saryusz-Wolski
Vice-Chairman
Working Group Foreign Affairs

EPP Group: The major political force in the European Parliament



- **EPP:** Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)
- **S&D:** Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament
- **ECR:** European Conservatives and Reformists Group
- **ALDE:** Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
- **GUE/NGL:** Confederal Group of the European United Left/Nordic Green Left
- **GREENS/EFA:** Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance
- **EFDD:** Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy Group
- **NI:** Non-attached

How we work

As the largest political Group in the European Parliament, the EPP Group is in a strong position to set that body's political agenda and to win its most critical votes. **This strength is reflected in the fact that, since 1999, the EPP Group has been on the winning side of more votes than any other group in the European Parliament's monthly plenary sessions.**

Strength of numbers also ensures that EPP Group Members hold a range of key positions within the Parliament - 6 of its Vice-Presidencies, Chairmanships of 8 of the EP's 22 committees or subcommittees, and 2 of its 5 Quaestorships. Within the parliamentary committees, EPP Group Members are best placed to secure the right to author the EP's position on key pieces of draft legislation and other major reports: the Group gets more of these "rapporteurships" on more important subjects, than any other Group.

The task of the European Parliament, which is elected every five years by direct universal suffrage, lies in exercising democratic control over the decision-making process in the European Union on behalf of Europe's citizens.

Composition: there are 751 Members of the European Parliament, representing more than 500 million Europeans.



Salon de l'Horloge,
Palais du Quai d'Orsay, Paris
09.05.1950



Jean Monnet
and Robert Schuman



Alcide De Gasperi
and Konrad Adenauer



Konrad Adenauer



Winston Churchill
and Robert Schuman

Our political position

The Group of the European People's Party (Christian-Democrats) brings together the political parties of the centre and centre-right in almost all Member States of the European Union.

Since its creation in June 1953, it has played a key role in all stages of European integration from the outset to the present day.

A very large number of the parties which are represented in the EPP Group also belong to the European People's Party, the first cross-border political party to be constituted at European level.

All of them are dedicated to the objective of achieving a more competitive and more democratic Europe in a social-market economy, a Europe that is closer to its citizens.

As the largest and most influential Group in the European Parliament, the EPP Group exerts a major influence over the Parliament's political programme.

The EPP Group has made the most of the growing political role which the European Parliament has come to play in the European Union.

The European Parliament, which since the Treaty of Maastricht (1993) has shared the power of codecision with the Council of Ministers in many areas of legislation, has seen the range and scope of the legislative process expand with each successive Treaty (Amsterdam in 1999 and Nice in 2003). Currently, it is an equal partner in the legislative process for more than two thirds of the policy issues with which the European Union deals.

With the Treaty of Lisbon, of which our Group was the main architect, the European Parliament has the power of codecision in all areas of European political life.

The Group of the European People's Party (EPP Group) is the most significant political force in the European Union, which is the direct descendant of the founding fathers of Europe, Robert Schuman, Konrad Adenauer and Alcide De Gasperi.

MEPs from the following national political parties belong to the EPP Group (Protocol order):



BELGIUM
> Christen-Democratisch & Vlaams (CD&V)
> Centre Démocrate Humaniste (cdH)
> Christlich Soziale Partei (CSP)



CZECH REPUBLIC
> TOP 09 a Starostvé (TOP09/STAN)
> Křesťanská a demokratická unie - Československá strana lidová (KDU-ČSL)



GERMANY
> Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands (CDU)
> Christlich-Soziale Union in Bayern e.V. (CSU)



IRELAND
> Fine Gael Party (FG)



SPAIN
> Partido Popular (PP)
> Unió Democràtica de Catalunya (UDC)



CROATIA
> Hrvatska demokratska zajednica (HDZ)
-Hrvatska seljačka stranka (HSS)



ΚΥΠΡΟΣ - CYPRUS
> Δημοκρατικός Συναγερμός (DLSY.)



LITHUANIA
> Tėvynės sąjunga - Lietuovs krikščionys demokratai (TS-LKD)



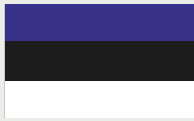
HUNGARY
> Fidesz-Magyar Polgári Szövetség-Keresztény Demokrata Néppárt (Fidesz-KDNP)
> Kereszténydemokrata Néppárt (KDNP)



BULGARIA
> Граждани за европейско развитие на България (ГЕРБ)
> Демократи за силна България (АСБ)



DENMARK
> Det Konservative Folkeparti (C)



ESTONIA
> Erakond Isamaa ja Res Publica Liit (IRL)



ΕΛΛΑΔΑ - GREECE
> Νέα Δημοκρατία (N.D.)



FRANCE
> Union pour un Mouvement Populaire (UMP)



ITALY
> Forza Italia (FI)
> Nuovo Centrodestra - Unione di Centro (NDC-UDC)
> Südtiroler Volkspartei (Partito popolare sudtirolese) (SVP)



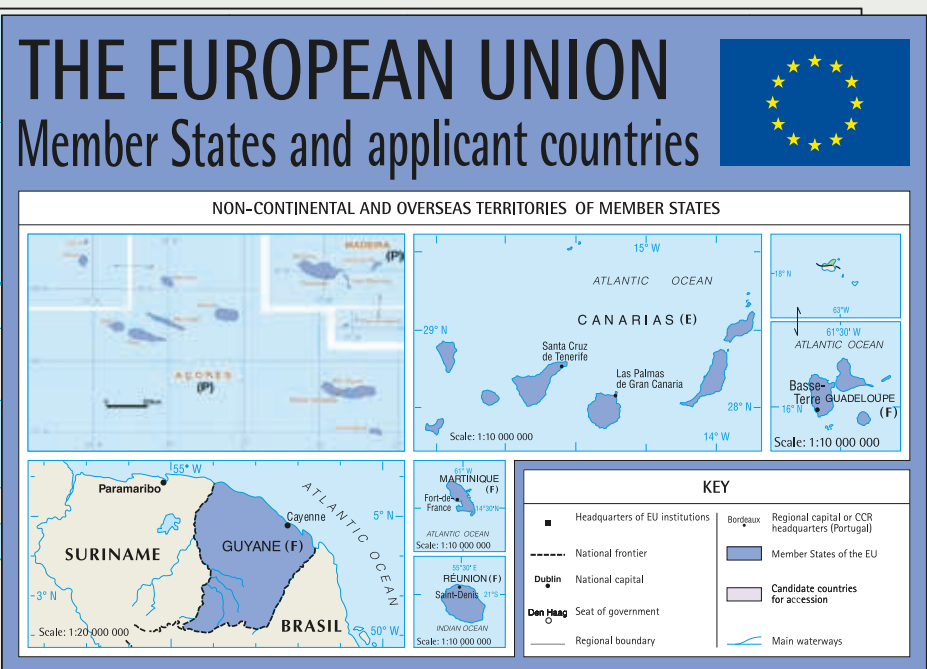
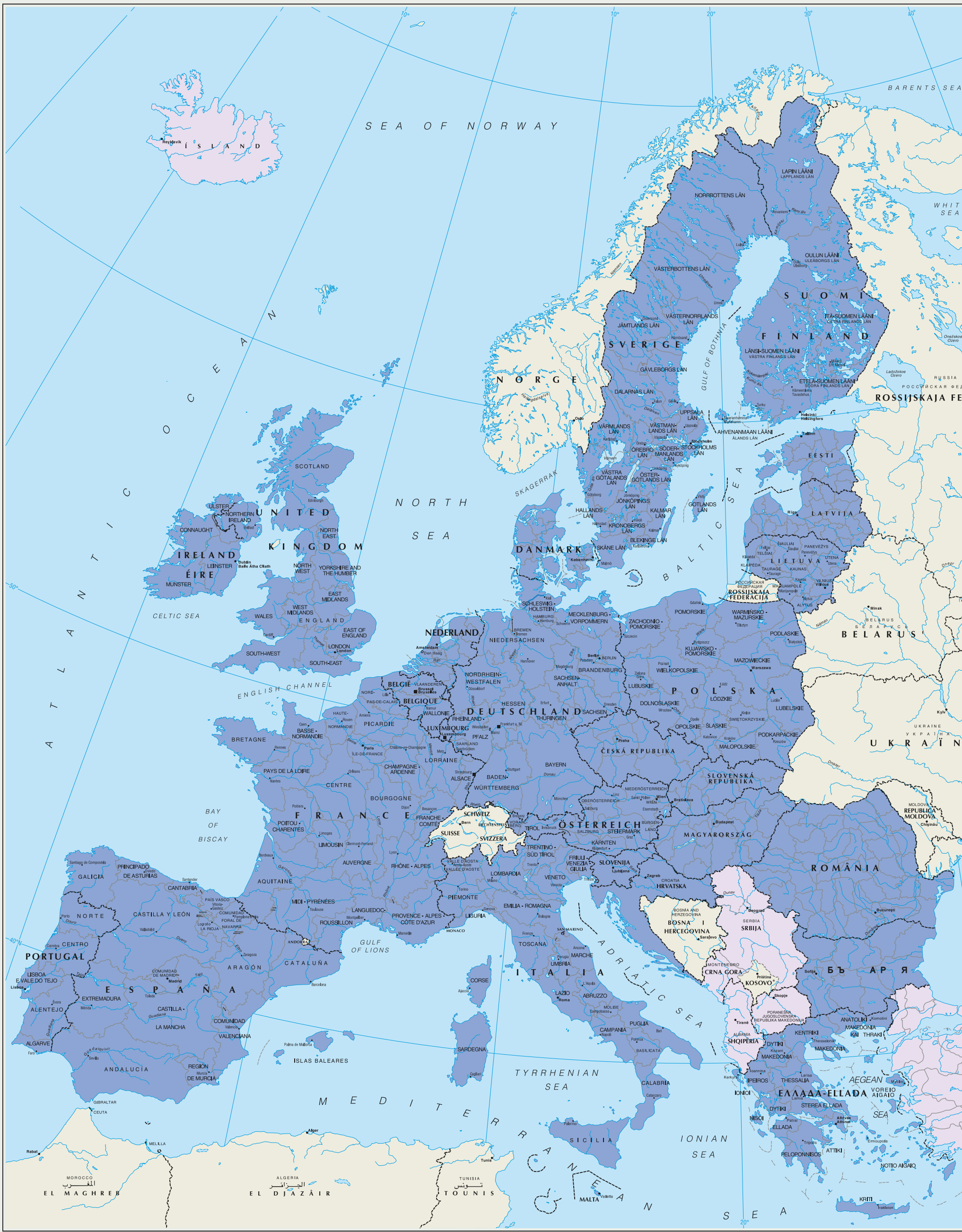
LATVIA
> Partija "VIENOTĪBA" (V)



LUXEMBOURG
> Parti chrétien social luxembourgeois (CSV)



MALTA
> Partit Nazzjonalista (PN)



THE EPP GROUP IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:

WHO WE ARE

- > We are **the largest political family** in Europe, driven by a centre-right political vision.
- > We are the Group of the European People's Party in the European Parliament.

WHAT WE BELIEVE IN

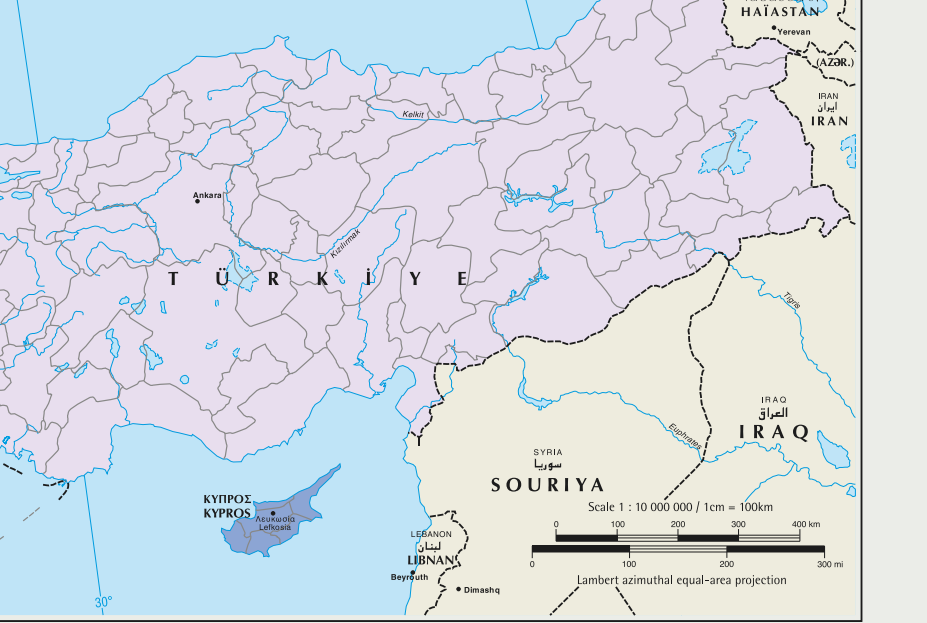
- > We believe in people's individual potential to create the life they want.
- > We are pro-entrepreneurs, pro-trade, pro-education, pro-research and pro-innovation.
- > We create the setting that allows individuals to take the initiative to benefit themselves and society as a whole. We are part of the same team – helping each other, doing whatever it takes, to find solutions to challenges.
- > We see the European continent as a place where people travel, do business, invest, learn from each other, buy, sell, collaborate and team up.

OUR PEOPLE

- > We believe in people that are dynamic, entrepreneurial, talented, self-motivated and dedicated. People who have bright ideas and are motivated to follow their dream.
- > We believe in people that try out new ideas, take risks, aren't afraid of failure. People who pick themselves up and keep going till they get there. They adapt, change, learn, reform, grow and create.
- > We want to help people become successful and to help people when they struggle.
- > We believe in providing a safety net for those who need it and in giving everyone an equal chance to succeed.
- > People create the economy and Europe is the largest economy in the world.
- > Everybody in Europe benefits from the world's largest market– by way of jobs linked to exports, e-commerce, foreign visitors, investment and competitive pricing.
- > We want our family firms, our small businesses, our innovators, inventors, researchers, scientists and self-employed to be beacons for innovation and excellence across Europe and beyond.

Believe in *People*

www.eppgroup.eu



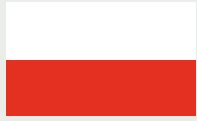
* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.



THE NETHERLANDS
> Christen Democratisch Appel (CDA)



AUSTRIA
> Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP)



POLAND
> Platforma Obywatelska (PO)
> Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe (PSL)
> Niezależny



PORTUGAL
> Partido Social Democrata (PSD)
> CDS – Partido Popular (CDS-PP)



ROMANIA
> Partidul Democrat-Liberal (PDL)
> Partidul Național Liberal (PNL)
> Partidul Mișcarea Populară (PMP)
> Uniunea Democrată Maghiară din România (UDMR)



SLOVENIA
> Slovenska demokratska stranka (SDS)
> Slovenska ljudska stranka (SLS)
> Nova Slovenija (NSi)



SLOVAKIA
> Kresťanskodemokratické hnutie (KDH)
> Slovenská demokratická a kresťanská únia - Demokratická strana (SDKÚ-DS)
> Strana maďarskej komunity- Magyar Közösség Pártja (SMK-MKP)
> MOST - HÍD



FINLAND
> Kansallinen Kokoomus (KOK)



SWEDEN
> Moderaterna (M)
> Kristdemokraterna (KD)