

cd-europe 1978/2



EPP : First Congress

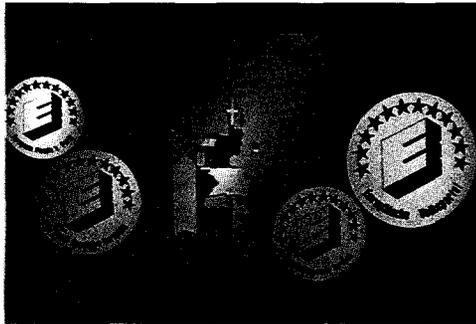
One European Party, one group in the European Parliament, one common programme for a United Europe.



Together towards a Europe for free people



EPP : FIRST CONGRESS



The European People's Party — Federation of Christian Democratic Parties of the European Community, held its first congress on 6 and 7 March 1978 in Brussels. In the presence of more than 500 guests — including a number of leading Christian Democrats from countries outside the European Community as well as from the Member States — and about 100 representatives of the press, the 220 delegates from 12 Christian-Democratic parties adopted the political programme of the European People's Party.

The adoption of this fundamental Christian-Democratic programme for Europe was preceded by wide-ranging discussions both in the EPP's programme committee, chaired by Wilfried Martens (CVP) with Hans-August Lücker (CSU) as rapporteur, and in all branches of affiliated parties and organizations.

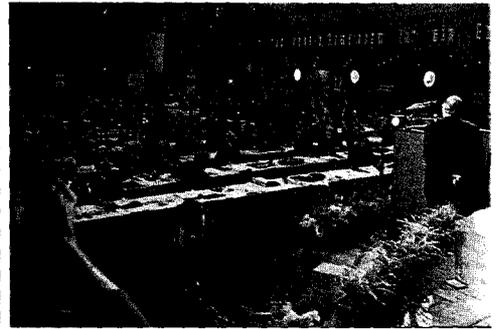
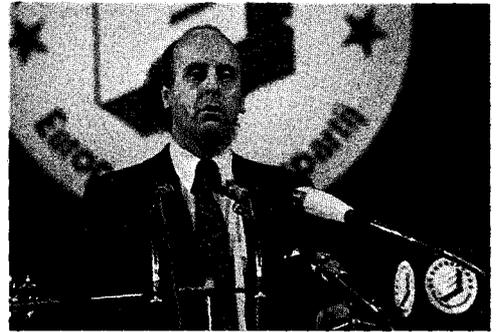
This congress has a twofold significance. On the one hand it demonstrates the ability of the

12 Christian-Democratic parties in the European Community to commit themselves to a joint programme for the development of our society.

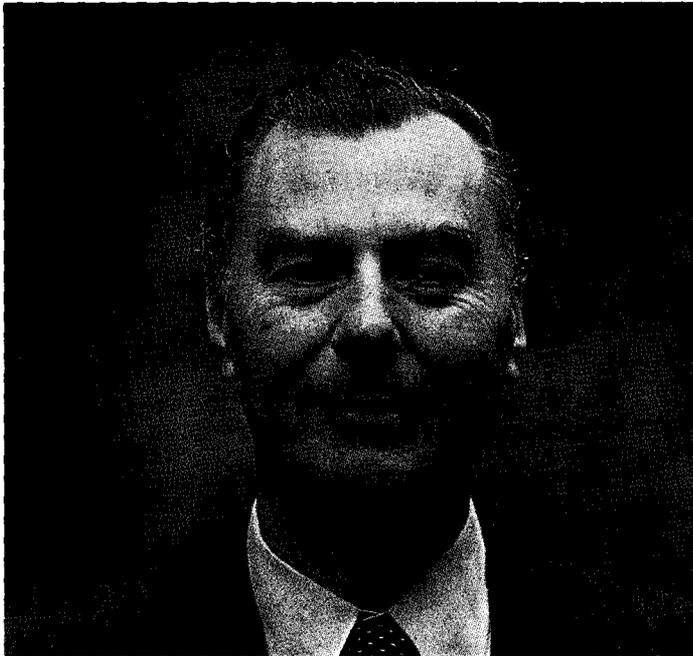
On the other hand it shows once again that Christian Democrats are foremost among the political forces striving to make the unification of Europe a reality. In adopting its programme, which is binding on the affiliated parties and which is a call to all European citizens, the EPP has opened the campaign for direct elections to the European Parliament.

In his inaugural address, the President of the EPP, Leo Tindemans, defined the objective of the congress as follows: "Today must become a day of hope and new confidence for Europe. This is what Europe needs. It is not the means, the people or the insight that are lacking, it is the political will and self-confidence to succeed".

TOGETHER TOWARDS A EUROPE



OF FREE PEOPLE



Leo Tindemans, Belgian Prime Minister and Chairman of the E P P

The originality of CD thinking and action stems from its constant concern with equilibrium between man and the community. Man is all important. The main underlying problem is how he can realize his full potential in society and use his talents to the best possible advantage.

But man cannot really be free unless he also assumes responsibility for his fellow men and for the world around him.

Freedom and solidarity are the keywords for the development of a harmonious world. This does not in any way mean that we should ignore conflicts or pretend they do not exist, but that we should always face up to them with the aim of finding new solutions. The immediate importance of our ideas stems from the fact that they are open, dynamic and flexible, in stark contrast to the closed, rigid and one-sided systems bequeathed to us by the nineteenth century.

In fact, the two most notable, Marxism and Liberalism, are based not on values but on impersonal factors which are supposed to make the individual happy. Christian-Democracy, on the other hand, is based on values which are shared in common by many individuals but which in origin and application are typical of our Christian heritage. Freedom and justice, solidarity and responsibility lie at the heart of the happiness man must create for himself and for others. For himself, by personal initiative, work, creativity, and the meaningful organization of society. For others, by support and sympathy.

For us it is inconceivable that politics should be based on anything other than these personalist ideals. Nowhere are these values given greater emphasis than in the Christian-Democratic policy, which we have described, reformulated and reaffirmed in our programme.

However, Christian-Democracy is more than a philosophy ; it is also a means of action.

It is no accident that Konrad Adenauer, Alcide de Gasperi, Robert Schuman and many others were Christian-Democrats. These people personified the concept of reconciliation and development. It was Christian-Democrats who were mainly responsible for the reconstruc-

An invitation to all those who want to help to reconstruct Europe

tion of Europe after the war, who restored the principle of democracy, and who laid the foundations for the welfare state. Although we realize that this has not so far resulted in the emergence of an ideal society, we need have no regrets about the past. Our European Community is the most prosperous, liberal and just society which has so far been evolved. We must retain all that is good in that society and endeavour to perfect it.

Our programme must be read with this particular philosophy and action policy in mind.

The two main aspects of this programme are the new role which Europe could play in the world and the way in which the Christian-Democrats would like to see Europe develop.

Europe's new role in the world

The new countries in particular look to Europe as a united entity and expect from us a special contribution to the creation of a new economic order, to the defence of human rights, and to the solution of major conflicts.

When will Europeans finally realise that a common front, a united Europe, is also essential to the improvement of relations at world level ?



We could play a unique role, provided we have the courage to draw the necessary conclusions as to the creation of a political authority, the maintenance of our economic power, and our responsibility for our own safety. If we can do this it will be realized that the joint exercise of certain national sovereign powers will create a new alliance and open up new vistas in our relations with our neighbours and with the United States and in our responsibilities towards the third world.

Christian-Democracy will remain true to Europe's international calling. This is why our programme deals first not with our own problems but with our responsibility towards and solidarity with our partners outside the Community. It follows also, therefore, that we are prepared to welcome new Member States.

Hence, we advocate an open and strong Europe which will once again be able to participate on equal terms in the solution of the world's major problems.

In the definition I gave in my report on European Union, which was signed by the European Council, I placed primary stress on the need to present a united front to the outside world.

If we speak with one voice we shall be able to contribute with our combined strength to justice and fairness in the world.

Unity will allow us to defend our interests and — most important of all — to shape our own destiny and construct our society in order to maintain our identity. Hence the drive towards European unification, an essential prerequisite for the achievement of these aims. Needless to say, we must also be mindful of the defence of our existence and our own safety.

An open and vital society

The development model advocated by the Christian-Democrats is an open dynamic society permitting the harmonious development of the individual.

Neither the Liberals nor the Marxists have the overall vision which directs Christian-Democratic attention to the personal and social aspects — the material and spiritual aspects — of mankind. Our economic system cannot survive unless the spiritual element is once again restored.

The belief that all men share the same destiny also lies at the heart of the concept of solidarity. A society is the joint product of mankind. For Liberals and Marxists, conflict in the form of blind competition or the class struggle is the basic element of society. These factors lead inevitably to the concentration of power in the hands of the few, or to disaster. Those who maintain that conflict is inherent in human society and that it is naive to deny that this is so should realize what consequences have resulted from the unrestrained individualism of social groups, races, nations and continents. Indeed, it is quite illogical to defend the class struggle as the predominant and all-powerful principle and then to claim to be a bastion of peace in world politics. Christian-Democrats are the strongest allies of the forces of peace.

This solidarity can be safeguarded only if everyone can believe that it

will help him participate in the shaping of his own destiny. The European ideal has always been opposed to domination by anonymous forces such as the State or the market alone.

Marxists place the individual under the protection of the State, which eliminates danger and thus also freedom. Liberals have no time for those who alone can endure the law of the jungle. In this case too the Christian-Democrats strike a balance.

In a world of crisis, with its simplistic slogans and the polarization of extreme forces, it is indeed difficult to defend a development model of this type. The effort to achieve a balance in a divided world can seem a lonely, almost hopeless task against the spirit of the times. However, the vitality of the Christian-Democratic parties in Europe, which form part of four governments in the E E C, shows how sympathetic we are to the fundamental requirements of the individual, which receive so little coverage in the media. Christian-Democrats will recreate the real Europe.

And will we succeed in winning the support of our citizens for this programme? We do not say that Europe will be Christian-Democratic. Nor do we say that it will not. We advocate a pluralist society in Europe in which all movements will participate in democratic competition. I have several times appealed for all the basically democratic parties in the E E C jointly to create a pluralist framework in which the democratic forces can meet and compete.

We hope that mature European voters will realise that the forthcoming European elections represent not only a significant event in the construction of Europe but also an extremely important step towards the society we wish to build.

At this point I should like once again to turn to the younger generation and say that the European ideal is still the greatest and most liberal political ideal to emerge from the post war world. I say this because it basically represents reconciliation between countries and peoples which have been in conflict for hundreds of years, because it raises the question of whether the nation state is indeed the ultimate political achievement and must remain with us for ever, and because it makes us realize that many problems are now too great to be solved by individual countries and national measures.

Will we now have the political courage to create in Europe the means to allow Europeans to solve most of these problems themselves without a war or a dictator to force them to cooperate?

Our first congress in Brussels may well be an important event in European history.

I would appeal to all those who are hesitating about which political direction they should choose for Europe to join us.

This congress is an open invitation to all those who want to help to reconstruct Europe.



A. VAN AGT , Prime Minister of the Netherlands .

Shared responsibility

The common programme of the E P P is an important step towards the formation of political structures at supranational level which are necessary if the great problems of our age overstepping all frontiers are to be solved. With this Christian-Democratic programme we are closer to breaking through a purely national approach which is the most persistent enemy of a united Europe ; we have always rejected that approach as a matter of principle.

European society must be founded on our Christian-Democratic principles of the recognition of human dignity, shared responsibility, social justice and parliamentary democracy both within Europe and outside it. As Christian-Democrats we cannot reconcile ourselves to the fact that a large part of the world lives on the edge of starvation or in unacceptable social conditions and that many peoples throughout the world are deprived of their rights by totalitarian regimes. We are collectively responsible and together we will have the courage to exercise joint pressure on the governments concerned to take appropriate action. At home we must get to grips with harmonizing socio-economic developments to ensure balanced progress in all parts of the Community. This is our internal solidarity.

After the European elections we shall take great care to determine with which other political groups we can best attain our objectives.

The process of European unification must be given further impetus in order to break out of the present paralysis. The Tindemans report has provided us with sufficient elements for this.

It is not ideas that are lacking but the political will. Must it again be the Christian-Democrats who refloat the ship of Europe ? We are prepared for this task. In cooperation with others. While retaining our own ideals. This, in the awareness that the Lord of life placed us on this earth so that we should be of service to others.



Helmut KOHL (CDU)

*Our purpose :
to make the EPP the strongest political force in
Europe*

We are the first of the three large European party federations to have drawn up a common programme for the European elections. For the first time in the history of the Christian-Democratic parties, 12 European member-parties have agreed on a programme. Our political action accords with our personal conception of a State and society based on liberty, social justice, solidarity and pluralism. What more progressive platform could a European political party adopt on the eve of the first European elections ?

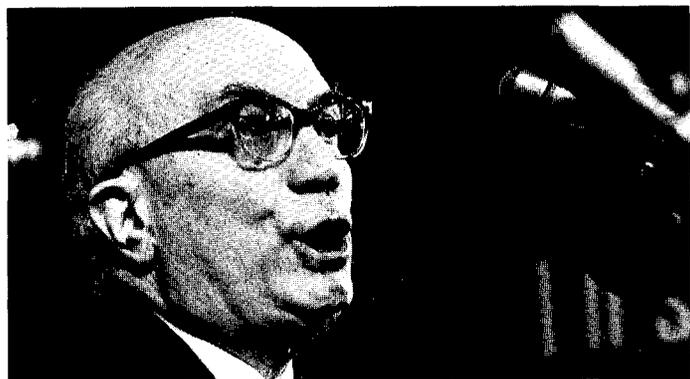
We take pride in the fact that, despite the different historical backgrounds of our countries and national parties, we have been able to reach agreement on both the underlying principles and the practical details of this programme. But if we are serious about Europe, our real work is only just beginning.

We have noted a growing tendency in Europe to belittle the dangers of communism, and have seen how a credulous reliance on the changes which communism, in its present camouflage as Euro-Communism, is supposed to have undergone, has produced a situation where the problem of communism is even now regarded by all too many people in Europe as virtually an academic question.

We German Christian-Democrats are not taken in by this outward display, designed to allay our fears. Coming as we do from a country divided by the Iron Curtain we are not easily duped by the sleights-of-hand and high-sounding nationalistic sentiments of the Euro-communists.

There is every reason to fear that a vote cast for the Communists or for their popular front allies is a gamble with European freedom.

In the election campaign during the coming months we shall vigorously advocate the E P P programme. Our objective is to make the E P P the strongest political force in Europe. Let us set to work together. The hour is at hand — history awaits our decision.



Amintore FANFANI (DC)

A strategy for achieving stability and security

Since the first separate Communities were established, the situation in Europe and the world at large has changed radically, though not always for the good.

The European Community must make up for lost time, remedy its shortcomings and tackle the issues it has hitherto neglected. The Community and its member countries must maintain sufficient control over economic developments. They must work towards that unity of purpose essential for the defence of democracy and be ever vigilant in the confrontation with countries that have opted for other systems. At the international level, they must cease to be irresolute and divided over the means of tackling the energy and monetary crises. As for détente, they must evolve a strategy for achieving stability and security both in Europe and in the world at large, having regard in particular to the more sensitive areas of the Mediterranean and equatorial Africa. They must guard against inconsistency in their approach to the protection of the independence of peoples, recognition of human rights and the fight against terrorism. Moreover, in the face of the present global conflicts, they cannot allow different decisions to be taken at national level which would run counter to the common interest.

All parties involved in the elections to the European Parliament, and in particular the newly formed European People's Party, must resolve to base their election platform on the issues outlined above ; as Europeans, as Christians and as democrats, it is our duty to do so for the good of all mankind.

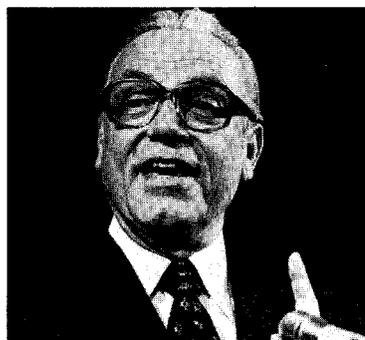
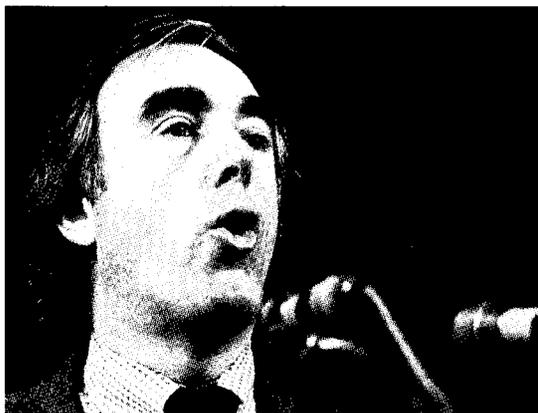


Garret FITZGERALD (Fine Gael)

EPP programme : evoking many echoes in Ireland

The E P P is being founded at a time when partly because of the world economic crisis, but partly also it must be said because of the negative attitudes of some non-Christian democratic parties in member States such as the United Kingdom and France, our Community has ceased to progress.

Our European Programme will arouse many echoes in Ireland — in its emphasis on the inalienable, inviolable dignity, freedom and responsibility of the human person, and on those cornerstones of our society — freedom, justice, solidarity, pluralism and open-ness. Irish people, including many who are not at present members of our party, will welcome the emphasis in this Programme on decentralization of power and the strengthening of local government ; on the preservation and extension of the immensely rich and diverse cultural heritage of our nations ; and on the defence of human rights. Irish opinion will also echo our European People's Party's emphasis on a progressive economic and social philosophy — one that transcends capitalism and collectivism, and fights against regional and social inequalities, and against our unhappy inheritance of inequality between men and women. It will also welcome our European People's Party's plans to promote a Charter on the rights of workers in their firms — our European People's Party's policies concerning the internal development of the Community will also find an echo amongst the Irish people as a whole, stressing as they do the need for the Community to intensify considerably its structural and regional policies.



Franz HEUBL (CSU)

Ready to cooperate with all who are prepared to work for freedom and security in Europe

The C S U has recently emerged from an interesting and successful electoral campaign. The political significance of the results go far beyond Bavaria. It is an unusual event in Europe when, for the first time in 30 years, a city like Munich, with one million inhabitants, elects a Christian Social Mayor and a Christian Social Union majority in the municipal Parliament. It means that industrial workers are willing to accept the ideological, political, philosophical and economic ideas of the European Christian-Democrats.

We must guard against ideological constraints and find practical solutions to practical problems. Similarly in the E P P the tenor of our cooperation must not be exclusively ideological. The E P P must be ready to cooperate with all who are prepared to work for freedom and security in Europe.

H. A. de BOER (CDA)

Avoiding polarisation into left-wing and right-wing peoples' fronts

Dutch Christian Democrats attach great importance to negotiations which, in their first phase, have today culminated in the adoption of a programme for the EEP. The national element in political activity at European level has, through the creation of the Federation of Christian Democratic Parties, been publicly reduced in importance. This international discussion is of great value in discovering points we have in common with sister parties in Europe. Any distortions in Christian Democratic policy produced by the protection of national interests can be corrected at this level. Traditional ways of thought can be reconsidered so as to differentiate between elements determined by historical and local factors and those which can and must bind Christian Democrats together at a deeper level.

The E P P programme lays down our position vis-à-vis the Socialist, Liberal, Conservative and Communist forces in Europe. In parliamentary practice, we shall often be able to profit, on various points, from cooperation with other democratic forces. This will not lead to fixed preferences in our cooperation. Our programme will indicate what joint action is appropriate on what points. In a situation where particular groups cannot achieve a majority, arrangements may be made either with the Social Democrats or the Liberals, or sometimes, possibly, with the Conservatives.

In the European Parliament we as Christian Democrats must do everything we can to avoid the formation of popular fronts, for they falsify, by the polarization that they cause, the essential differences in the political objectives of the various parties. If we ourselves were to participate in a popular front we could find ourselves in dubious company.



Pierre WERNER (PCS)

Against European pessimism

At present, national governments are more concerned about protecting and developing their economies than about real solidarity among the European nations. The Community's identity, which thankfully is respected by the rest of the world, is weakened and sometimes even questioned within our countries.

We must overcome this gloom in the interests of our cause. We must try to motivate the rising generations. We are offering European youth a collection of ideas on the organization of society and basic values to guide them in a world of uncertainty in which the best values have been corrupted in a process of intellectual disintegration. It is no accident that our Christian Democratic parties are in the forefront in every country fighting for the dignity of the individual and the protection of unborn human life.



Charles-Ferdinand NOTHOMB (PSC)

A genuine people's party

Our joint party is neither a loose federation of national parties, nor a party controlling the national parties.

It is the expression of our joint European hopes, respecting our differences and the particular circumstances each of us have to face. We must reaffirm and consolidate our basic characteristic, that of being a genuine people's party. To do this we must strengthen the support we have from all sections of society, including, and perhaps especially, among those classes for which other parties claim to be the sole representatives.

By definition, a people's party refuses to allow politics to be organised on the basis of the class conflict pattern. A people's party refuses to allow society to be divided into opposing blocs which could eventually become irreconcilable.

A certain French socialist leader has unwisely gone so far as to say simplistically that "Europe will be socialist, or there will be no Europe". I will pass over the pretentiousness of the statement; there is no risk of the socialists being in a majority in the Europe of the future.

However, the statement is unacceptable for other reasons. Does this assertion mean that if the socialists cannot dominate Europe, they will become anti-European? Or does it mean that all those who do not want to see a socialist Europe must become anti-Europeans?

The statement is unacceptable and we ought to reject it categorically.

In the same way, we must refrain from saying that Europe will be anti-socialist or anti-liberal or there will be no Europe. We Christian-Democrats want to take on the role which corresponds with the

political force we represent. We will avoid the misfortune of a polarized two-party system in Europe.

Pierre PELIMLIN (C.D.S.)
Europe: not an abstract concept

What we must do is to create the link in people's minds between socio-economic concerns and the European ideal. In the campaigns that lie ahead we shall be upholding the idea of Europe, but first and foremost, we must seek to change the way people look at things, to widen their horizons, and to bring home to them the significance of the great changes of our times, which is that independence no longer has any meaning if it is the independence of a single nation; that economic and social progress will remain an illusion so long as the efforts made to that end by the Government, enclosed within the narrow limits of a single State, chiefly consists in passing on to its neighbour the difficulties that need to be solved.



Luigi GRANELLI (C D)

Our abiding commitment to Christian and democratic values

In the E P P programme we make no secret of our abiding commitment to the values of Christian Democracy. However, in the European context we are not and, indeed, could never be a party solely preoccupied with the pursuit of short-term pragmatic policies, for it will be our task, not only to solve problems of immense consequence and to fulfil the legitimate hopes of our peoples, but also to measure ourselves against other parties of different political and ideological persuasion; this will mean engaging in a free and democratic confrontation of ideas, procedures and objectives with a view to building a Europe which is genuinely pluralistic, democratic and "of the people". It is our belief that this political battle cannot be deferred until after the elections; rather it must be joined forthwith, so that we can be certain of presenting a credible programme when Europe goes to the polls. For the same reason, we have to carry the fight beyond the confines of national politics. It is essential that we come out into the open and mobilize all the resources at our disposal so as to demonstrate that we intend to act with the same firmness of purpose displayed by the Community's founding fathers.

Message from Jean LECANUET, President of the CDS

In 1978 a two-fold challenge faces the Europe of the Nine: the first of these is enlargement. Certainly we must meet the expectations of Greece, Portugal and Spain. Being a part of Europe would consolidate their progress and their liberties.

But we must not repeat the mistake we made on the accession of the U.K. Any new enlargement must this time be accompanied, if not preceded, by consolidation of the Community. If the expectations of the applicant countries are not to be disappointed, the Community must first strengthen its cohesion and the effectiveness of its institutions.

The second challenge is the world crisis, the extent and duration of which are today more clearly perceived. It will demand an enormous effort of adjustment by the European economy. A concerted revival of economic activity and a common strategy for industrial redeployment would effectively serve this purpose.

A PROGRAMME FOR EUROPE

Wilfried MARTENS (CVP)

The drawing up of a European political programme is a difficult task, particularly since it is intended for the 250 million Europeans whose views we wish to represent.

It was therefore necessary for each of us to overcome our national concerns. We have deliberately rejected the idea of merely piecing together our national programmes in order, as it were, to identify the lowest common denominator. This of course means that we cannot ensure that every page and every paragraph will be formulated with precisely the turn of phrase or nuance to which we are so attached in our national context.

As the main element of the European election campaign, the election platform has to tie in with concrete situations; it has to set out the general political programme for today in clear language.

As a basis and a guideline for our European options, the programme lays down the image of man and of society which we all share and our fundamental policy with regard to European unification.

For us, European unification can only take shape in a European federation since a federal structure is the only one which will create and safeguard unity in diversity and diversity in unity, since it is the most appropriate expression of the principle of subsidiarity, in which political power is distributed as widely as possible, since it corresponds most closely to our pluralistic ideology and since federalism is the political formulation of personalism.

The combination of solidarity and justice with personal freedoms provides the Christian Democrat's new vision of society, a vision in which co-determination and worker participation, pluralism and decentralization are not empty words.

We Christian Democrats are not somewhere halfway between left and right: on the contrary.

Our ideology - our European ideology - is largely determined by personalism and clearly differs from that which predominates in America where the elements of solidarity and humanity all too often have to give way to soulless organizational considerations. Our ideology is also clearly opposed to the materialistic and freedom-robbing models propagated by Eastern Europe.

In order to create a viable united Europe, urgent progress needs to be made in many fields where the European landscape is still lying more or less fallow.

In the crisis which work towards Euro-

pean unification is at present experiencing, a considerable stimulus is expected from the direct elections to the European Parliament.

Many people are counting on such a Parliament having enough political weight to break through the impasse and at the same time to extend its own role and powers.

At least the very prospect of these European elections has caused us to create a European party, and devote many months to the joint consideration of party programmes with the result that we have learned to know and appreciate each other better.

Never before has such a great effort been made to give Europeans a common answer to their common problems.

I am looking forward to these elections with confidence: we have a strong, united party, we have an original and attractive policy, and we have the energy to achieve progress in Europe.

Hans-A. LÜCKER (CD-Group)

Through this congress, we in the European People's Party are demonstrating that we have completed the first stage of our organizational and drafting preparations and are ready to embark on the first campaign for direct elections to the European Parliament.

What guidelines did we follow in drawing up our programme? Our view of the individual, society and the state is inspired by Christian values. These values, which we have deliberately chosen as the foundation of our policy, necessarily lead us to respect and defend the inalienable and inviolable human rights and basic liberties. These values are present in every sector of the policy outlined in our programme.

The second guideline stems from our experience, our history and all that we have learned from it. We Christian Democrats have always been leading proponents of a politically united Europe - and we have acted on our conviction.

The third guideline comes from the Treaties of Rome which are an exact reflection of the political objective proclaimed by Robert Schuman in his declaration of 9 May 1950: the Federation of Europe.

Our programme is a first attempt to achieve true political integration of intentions and action among the twelve founding member parties of our E P P. We have in the past had consultation and cooperation at European and international levels; but we know that we are now embarking on a new phase of our political action and adding a new dimension to our work. From now on we must take specific policy decisions for whose adoption we shall militate in the new European Parliament.

Our programme is based on the assumption that there is no acceptable or better alternative to a politically united Europe now and in the future. Because there is no alternative. Europe must regain its strength and sense of purpose. Renewal of our cultural creativity, improvement of our economic and technical performance and attainment of our economic and cultural aims in Europe - these are the paths to progress.

A European policy cannot be defined or implemented without institutions capable of action and endowed with the necessary powers. The institutions of today's Community and of the future European Union must be democratically balanced and controlled by parliament.

We Christian Democrats do not see European Union as the ultimate aim for Europe. We see it simply as an important step towards the political objective of a fully united Europe; the Federation of Europe. That is the aim of our political efforts.



Wilfried Martens, Chairman of the programme committee and Hans A. Lücker, rapporteur



PROGRAMME OF THE EPP...

Our guidelines for Europe

- Only by joint action can Europe safeguard its own identity, its right of self determination, and hence its ideals of freedom, solidarity, justice, peace and democracy.
- The federal structure is the form in which Europe will achieve its unity and safeguard its diversity.
- The European Union will be a society in which all democratic forces will find freedom of expression and will participate actively in its construction.
- Europe must remain open to the world and make its own essential contribution to the fight against hunger, poverty and violence and to the achievement of justice and true peace in freedom.

Our concept of man

- We base our policy on an image of man which is inspired by fundamental Christian values and finds its expression in the inalienable and inviolable freedom of the human person and his responsibility. This implies equality in diversity, in the will to develop and in the awareness of the fallibility of man.
- Man is dependent on the community for his development. This is why he cannot truly attain to self-realization unless he bears responsibility for himself and for others. The cornerstones of our society — freedom, justice, solidarity, pluralism and openness — all have their place in this personal concept of man.
- In accordance with this philosophy, we are obliged to respect the value of the family. The family makes possible the development of the person and is essential for the education of children. It is a cornerstone of our society.
- We will safeguard human rights and basic freedoms as a foundation for the development of the individual and for the establishment of a just society.
- We also advocate the creation of conditions which will make it possible for everyone in our modern society to benefit fully from these human rights and basic freedoms, and in particular the right to a minimum income, to treatment in the event of illness, to work, to

**A pluralist
Europe**

**The expression of
Christian and
personalist
values**

Human rights and basic freedoms

strike, to equal pay for equal work, to a healthy environment, to accommodation, to access to education and the right to objective information.

- The solidarity which we are striving to achieve represents a bond between men. It is a prerequisite for community life. Solidarity finds expression in rights and duties.

- In this spirit we are ready to fight against injustice, discrimination and poverty. The problems in Europe which arise from inequality between social groups, regions and countries can be solved only by a European policy of solidarity and by structural change.

Political democracy

- Pluralist democracy is the form of government which best corresponds to our concept of a modern society based on partnership. Democracy to us means that political power should be decentralized wherever possible.

Europe in the world

- Only if Europe is united will it be strong enough to further effectively freedom and solidarity, peace and justice for the peoples of the world.

- Only a united Europe will be able to contribute effectively to the creation of a new world order which flows from these objectives, as a creative force for progress and international social justice.

- Only a united Europe will be strong enough to fulfil its responsibilities, to look after its legitimate interest in the world, to assert itself against the threat of military action and to safeguard its future existence in sovereignty and freedom.

- We intend to assume this responsibility to defend human rights, basic freedoms and the rights of peoples, without which true peace is impossible.

- We wish to overcome by peaceful means the division of Europe. The right to self-determination of all European peoples, including the German people, remains for us a principle of European policy.

- We are firmly in favour of effective and lasting détente on a balanced reciprocal basis. The furtherance of human, political, economic and cultural relations between the peoples of East and West contributes to the credibility of détente and is thus an important factor for peace.

- Mutual balanced and controlled troop and arms limitation, is a major priority, particularly in view of the growing military potential of Eastern Europe.

- European security depends on the Atlantic Alliance. European Union will be incomplete as long as there is not a common defence policy within the Atlantic Alliance

(This applies only to member parties of the EPP from the NATO countries.)

- We wish to cooperate on the formulation of a comprehensive new development and growth strategy in which the developing countries will participate on a basis of equality.

- The industrialized countries — including the Community — must contribute to public development aid at a level of at least 0.7% of the gross national product within prescribed time limits. We must in the first place allocate funds to the poorest nations.

A vocation for Europe

Human rights more important than sovereignty

Solidarity and justice

The European Community's policy

- Economic development is not an end in itself. It centres on mankind. Its aim must be to improve living conditions for everyone and protect the quality of man's natural and cultural environment.

- The fundamental condition to realize such a policy based on freedom and social justice, supposes a good functioning of a democratic regulated social market economy. In this system social responsibility finds its expression in active solidarity. It transcends capitalism and collectivism. It ensures participation and co — responsibility for the greatest possible number of citizens, the development of personality, property and prosperity, and social security for everyone.

- The problems of economic and monetary policy require international agreement on a world scale. Within the Community this can only be achieved by common action on the basis of common objectives. These objectives are :

- the fight for full employment, particularly for young people ;

- the fight against inflation ;

- the creation of a climate favourable to investment ;

- the facilitation of the necessary structural changes within undertakings and at sectoral level ;

- the promotion of the free movement of workers ;

- the promotion of energy and research policies ;

- the promotion of structural and regional policy, accompanied by a harmonized and active social policy.

- In the longer term, it will be necessary to make Economic and Monetary Union a reality. This remains an essential condition for the maintenance, consolidation and further development of the Community's achievements.

- As part of our basic philosophy, we believe that social policy should stimulate initiatives to benefit the unorganized groups and the weakest groups of the population, in particular the handicapped and the old.

Social market economy

Democracy regulated

Social responsibility through active solidarity

Full employment

A charter of rights for workers

- Social policy must contribute to the achievement of equality between men and women and in particular the realization of the principle of equal pay for equal work.
- Partnership and solidarity should guarantee justice for everyone and at the same time ensure that our economic system is more efficient. This is our alternative to capitalism without a social dimension and to collectivism. It is based on liberty and justice.
- We will promote at European level :
 - the creation of a Charter on the rights of workers ;
 - worker participation in various forms at shop-floor, plant and undertaking level, particularly by means of balanced representation on boards of directors and works councils in European limited companies ;
 - greater participation of all in property formation with a view to a more balanced distribution ;
 - freedom of movement of workers based on free choice and not imposed by the social differences between favoured and less favoured regions of the Community ;
 - measures for migrant workers, relating in particular to their accommodation, professional training, social, political and cultural integration and the education of their children.
- With a view to ensuring that the individual can experience the value of his work, both manual and non-manual, we are fighting for the further "humanization" of living and working conditions, in particular by minimizing monotonous and production-line work, and by reducing night work, Sunday work and shift work.
- Social policy must recognize, promote and safeguard the importance of the family in a free democratic society. We are in favour of a policy which enhances the cohesion of the family, strengthens its educational capacity, protects the life of unborn babies and furthers the personal development of children. A social policy with these aims must ensure that large families also have incomes which are sufficient for the upbringing and education of their children.
- This policy must enable men and women to discharge their responsibilities in the family, at work and in society on a basis of equality.
- The European Community's structural and regional policy measures must be considerably intensified. Measures taken by regions, member States and the Community must form part of a general philosophy.
- In the common agricultural policy, efforts centre in particular on :
 - the safeguarding of what has already been achieved, especially by eliminating monetary difficulties ;
 - the correction of imbalances on the agricultural market by means of an appropriate price and structural policy ; this involves ensuring that the intervention system is effective in achieving a better balance, providing all producers with differentiated, but comparable, guarantees ;
 - the further extension of existing agricultural systems ;
 - the use of regional policy measures in areas with natural disadvantages ;
 - the intensification of measures to improve agricultural and sales structures.
- The energy crisis has made a common energy policy essential. Such a policy must form part of the Community's foreign and external policy.
- High priority must be given to Community environmental policy. We insist on the adoption of Community minimum norms on emissions in order to prevent distortions of competition between undertakings and to afford the same protection to all citizens of Europe.
- We advocate consumer protection, measures to protect health, in particular as regards the purchase of foodstuffs and medicines, and measures to ensure that technical equipment can be operated safely, as well as the harmonization of current national legal provisions in the Community, based on the legislation of the most dynamic Member State on this level.

A preventive environmental policy

The dynamism of the Community's institutional framework

- The unity of Europe must be based on the determination of its peoples.
- In the transitional period leading up to political union and Economic and Monetary Union, it is crucially important for the Community to move towards the establishment of a Community decision-making centre, the true partner of which will be the democratically elected European Parliament.

**No Community
policy without
effective institutions**

- We expect the directly elected and democratically legitimated Parliament to provide a new constitutional and institutional impetus for the achievement of European union and progress towards a European federation, the ultimate political aims of unification.
- In particular, young people must be actively involved in the construction of Europe ; this applies, too, to the Community bodies which should hear the views of the responsible youth organizations.
- It is necessary that :
 - the existing Treaties must be applied in full and maximum use must be made of their potential,
 - the legislative power and authority of the European Parliament and Commission, which, are the main institutions representing the Community, must be strengthened,
 - the Council must use majority voting as provided for in the Treaties.

**Together towards
a Europe
for free people**

Our goal : A UNITED EUROPE

For us, European Union as described in the Tindemans report and formally proclaimed by the Heads of State or Government meeting in the European Council, will represent an important step towards European unification.

We are firmly committed to the final political objective of European unification, that is the transformation of the European Union into a "unique" European federation of the type described, many years ago, by Robert Schuman in his declaration of 9 May 1950. This Europe will not be able to manifest its capacity for dynamic and unequivocal action until the necessary institutions have been created :

- a EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, which gives expression to the free will of the people,
- a CHAMBER OF STATES, which represents the legitimate interests of the Member States,
- a EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT, which is willing and able to govern effectively.





Emilio COLOMBO,
chairman of the European Parliament

*EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT —
 Unifying force, first real
 integration*

Here I would like to mention the unifying force of the European Parliament in which the first real integration has been substantiated; Parliament provides a genuine base for unification, a forum for the ideologies of the peoples of different nations, fused together through a European mandate. Our great responsibility is to make Parliament the critical conscience and the direct elections the most important moment of the European integration process. But we must not lose sight of the distance which exists between the ideal conceived in the immediate post-war years and the reality as it is today.

We should respect all that has been achieved so far and critically assess our own progress.

Our institutions are not working as efficiently as they might. There are those who ask what the future powers of the European Parliament will be. My reply is this: let us not speak only about those powers; let us first reflect on the fact that the institutions do not measure up to the reality which we ourselves have created. We have transferred powers almost directly from the national States, but in the present state of confusion, we risk finding ourselves with institutions that can give none of the guarantees of a modern constitution to its European citizens. It is therefore essential to make a far-reaching review of the institutional set-up in the Community.

Egon A. KLEPSCH,
**Chairman of the CD-Group
 in the European Parliament**

*Christian Democratic Group :
 EPP-vanguard in the
 European Parliament !*

There is a widespread view that the European Community has lost its appeal to the people of Europe.

Nevertheless, this allegedly widespread view is refuted by the findings of the Eurobarometer, i.e. the opinion polls carried out at regular intervals since 1973 in all the member countries.

The figures of these opinion polls are the best answer to the statement by Britain's Labour Foreign Secretary David Owen that: "the people of this country don't want European union and it is pretty certain the French and Danish people don't want it either. I have my doubts whether the majority of the German and Italian people want it". I should like to make it abundantly clear that not only do we contest his erroneous view, which is in no way reflected by the people of our countries, but that our struggle to extend the European Community and take it further along the path towards political union is fully assured of the support of the people of Europe.

The Group of the E P P in the European Parliament has always seen itself as a group with a Community mission, as a group that must be a driving force in the development of Europe.

If, today, we as the political group representing the centre in the European Parliament are a force capable of submitting its political views to debate and obtaining majority backing for them and which is successful in transforming its ideas, this is only possible because we recognize a common position, an integrated Christian-Democratic standpoint in Europe on the Community. Only those capable of passing through this formative experience are capable of leadership and of attracting majority support.

We are not prepared to deviate from the objectives of European unification in political and institutional terms. We are a political force which unites principles with the power to achieve progress through pragmatic action in the world, in Europe and in our own countries. When new problems have arisen we have always been ready with new ideas for serving them.

We have been highly successful in the past because, while others have covered their hesitations with the threadbare slogans of Marxism, Leninism, we have pushed forward towards a new common future, a future which it will require all our efforts to achieve. To date no one has put forward a better plan for solving our problems than to follow the path to European political unification.

Against which political forces must we struggle ?

There is in the first place the crass egoism of exaggerated national interest. It includes countries and governments who approach Community issues with the sole intention of deriving the maximum possible benefits for themselves and whose policy is to increase these benefits even further. A typical example is the British Labour Government which, since 1974 has not let a year go by without blatantly taking this incredible line which is in conflict with the spirit of the Treaties.

We shall relentlessly pursue the political struggle against these forces whose attitude is a clear rejection of Europe. Indeed, even in the United Kingdom the majority of the electorate is committed to a European policy and perhaps this very fact will help to bring down the tottering Callaghan government.

The second group comprises all those who, in the political debate, put forward a totalitarian model for the future of Europe.

A third group is only prepared to support Europe provided they have an undisputed monopoly in shaping it. This group includes François Mitterand who raises a clenched fist holding a rose and says that the only possible Europe is a socialist Europe. We stand for a pluralistic Europe in which all political forces can work together. The unusual concept of democracy which lies at the heart of Mr. Mitterand's view is undoubtedly one of the reasons why the Socialist International has been unable to agree on a platform for European elections. A document does exist, but we are informed that the French, British and even the Dutch socialists - the last-mentioned as the result of a decision by the Party Congress - have refused to accept the platform. This now raises the question whether we shall be campaigning against the various socialist, nationalistic views of the individual countries. Furthermore this poses the fundamental question how so divided a group can present itself to the European electorate as a party capable of leadership.





Kai-Uwe von Hassel with Emilio Colombo and Hans A. Lücker

**Kai-Uwe von HASSEL,
Chairman of the European
Christian-Democratic Union (ECDU)**

The greater the stability in free Europe, the greater its influence on unfree Europe

Historians will conclude that it was the Christian Democrats who formulated the grand vision of "Europe". It is to them that we owe the grand European development. And Christian Democrats have appeared for renewed commitment in times of setbacks, stagnation and general discouragement; the new plans for leading Europe out of the recession are the work of Christian Democrats, almost without exception: Pierre Werner, Leo Tindemans, Alfred Bertrand. It is not arrogance when we describe ourselves as the powerhouse of Europe, nor is it demagoguery when we take the left to task because - apart from a few exceptions - they have refused to commit themselves to Europe without hesitation and are merely "tagging along" without enthusiasm today.

As chairman of the ECDU, I should like to express my thanks and respects to the European Parliament, especially to our group. The Parliament started out with practically no rights: through tenacious and incessant activity, it has now acquired rights which make us confident that the European Parliament will one day obtain the powers fitting for a Parliament, helped also by those people who still reject it today.

Because the ECDU feels responsible for the new Europe it paved the way for the foundation of the European People's Party in a relatively short time. That it managed to incorporate 12 parties from 7 countries of the Community into a united party and to give this a common name and a set of statutes free from conflict, is an achievement of which we can all be proud.

The Social Democrats and their socialist friends can as yet boast no such achievement. They create an outward appearance of unity, but are split internally. True, they are undefeated champions in one respect: their International meets continually. Their success with the press is magnificent. To judge from their appearances on television, they should have created Europe long ago. They are a shining example of Shakespeare's co-

medy in real life: Much Ado About Nothing.

And what of the Liberals? They have the longest manifesto, but they are even less homogeneous than the Socialists. However, I shall certainly concede one thing: within their limitations they are fighting for Europe and, in espousing this cause, they make a very pleasant contrast to the Social Democrats and Socialists.

The stronger the Europe of Nine becomes, the better it is for the rest of Europe also.

The more a free Europe is able to consolidate itself, the more effective will be the economic and social framework of its society; the more effectively our system is characterized by the defence of human rights, the stronger this will radiate into areas where freedom does not exist.

The more the European Community is shaped by us, the Christian Democrats, the healthier and stronger it will become and the greater will be the chance of uniting Europe in freedom, and of shaping it as "a Europe of free people".



**Mariano RUMOR, President of
the Christian Democratic World
Union (CDWU)**

*A universal movement for
progress and renewal*

The demonstration of strength and community feeling at this congress is a message of confidence which European Christian Democrats send to sister organizations throughout the world.

We must build a Europe of free men in a world of free men.

This requires a policy of fostering and defending human rights, encouraging and spreading economic and social development: a policy which makes real and tangible the values on which we base and justify our political and ideological existence in the world.

In the history of mankind there has never been a great battle which has not been supported by the determined thrust of great popular political and social forces - more so than by the will of governments, in fact.

That is why I would ask the E P P to take its responsibility and to set an example in promoting and developing the political initiatives of the Christian Democrat World Union.

It is our duty to use our solidarity to assist all Christian Democrat parties wherever they are, whether they are in power, in opposition or underground, or where they are persecuted; we should also help all forces of Christian inspiration which throughout the world are emerging from long periods of colonialism and authoritarian régimes.

The presence of a federal party of Christian Democrats representing a community of nations is something new and special in the history of the twentieth century.

It is up to us to make positive use of all the possibilities, to make it a major focal point for a large-scale universal movement aimed at progress and renewal.

E P P - Women's Organisation

Much more must be done to stimulate political awareness among the general public, and in particular among women and young people, whose commitment to Europe is essential if the principles of liberty and pluralism are to be safeguarded in the movement towards unification.

We call upon the Christian Democrat parties to ensure that women are elected to the European Parliament by assigning to them key political positions on the electoral lists, thereby giving proof of the importance attached by Christian Democracy to the participation of women in every sphere of social and political life.

Franca Falcucci, chairman



Franca Falcucci and Emilio Colombo

Young European Christian Democrats

On behalf of the Young European Christian Democrats, their chairman Umberto Laurenti declared that they were prepared to help realize the political objectives of the E P P.

He underlined however that to this society, the tragedies it gives rise to and the injustices it inflicts, we must oppose the alternative of a new society.

The congress adopted resolutions on full employment and migrant workers, tabled by the European Union of Christian Democratic workers, on women, tabled by the EPP Women's Organisation and on youth policy, tabled by the Young European Christian Democrats, as well as a resolution on human rights.

The Congress was also attended by leaders of the Christian-Democratic parties from non-member States, including the secretary-general of the Swiss Christian People's Party, Hans-Peter Fagagnini, and the chairman of the Austrian People's Party, Josef Taus. Both referred to the need for closer cooperation between the European Christian-Democratic parties and the E P P. The chairman of the Maltese Christian-Democratic Party, Edward Fenech Adami, spoke of Malta's strategic importance for Europe and stressed the close links between his party and the Community. He proposed that a conference of Christian-Democratic parties from the Mediterranean region should be held to discuss the special problems of that area and draw up a common mutual aid policy.

On behalf of the Equipo Demócrata Cristiano del Estado Español, Anton Cañellas, the political secretary declared.

"I should like to say something of the hopes we have for this great party that has just been founded.

Our first hope is that it shall contribute to the achievement of a European Community with a human face and strong cultural values. Europe cannot be nothing more than the name of a market.

We further hope for the kind of solidarity that will permanently open the way to freedom and self-fulfillment for the peoples of Europe whose ethnic, linguistic and cultural features do not coincide with State frontiers and who, because they do not form a State, have been denied the name of nation. Today's broad movement towards devolution signifies that Europe is rediscovering the many individual roots of

its different peoples. For them a Community Europe offers a historic opportunity to achieve their age-old national aspirations, with the guarantee of convergence at a higher level. Hope, too, for economic solidarity with the peoples of Southern Europe.

I consider it vitally important that the E P P, should be a living embodiment of the entire social purpose of Christian Democracy, and never surrender to any temptation to become the nucleus of a conservative force."

Fernando Alvarez de Miranda, President of the Spanish Chamber of Deputies, expressed the hope that Spain would become very soon a member of the European Community, "due to our mutual desire to arrive at fair, imaginative and generous political solutions to the economic and technical problems which exist on both sides, without reducing the effectiveness of the Community. There is no threat of this from the candidate countries, nor will there be in future.

Early Spanish membership of the European Community is the absolutely unanimous wish of all the deputies who were elected democratically last year after forty years of a régime which cut us off from democracy, progress and Europe."

On behalf of the O D C A (Organización Demócrata Cristiana de América) and the Chilean Christian Democratic Party, Jaime Castillo thanked European sister parties for their solidarity. He thanked the governments for the support given to the Christian Democratic exiles from Chile and other Latin American states and for their solidarity in the struggle against dictatorship in Latin America.

Today, press and public opinion are observing us very attentively to see if we will be able to present our programme unanimously and if we possess sufficient vitality to take with this programme again the leading of the European relance.

Leo Tindemans

Irish Independent Frankfurter Allgemeine EL PAIS ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Ryan raps
scandal of
Europe's
Flying
Accord

DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE DE LA MAÑANA
MARTES 9 DE ABRIL DE 1978

Kohl warnt vor dem Eurokommunismus
MARTES 9 DE ABRIL DE 1978

De Standaard

DAGBLAD VOOR STAATKINDIGE MAATSCHAPPELIJKE EN EKONOMISCHE BELANGEN
Kongres legt laatste hand aan program
Kristendemokraten openen
Europese verkiezingsstrijd

L'POPOLO

QUOTIDIANO DELLA DEMOCRAZIA CRISTIANA
Il congresso del Partito Popolare Europeo
Trenta milioni di voti dc
rappresentati a Bruxelles

THE IRISH TIMES

Fine Gael finds allies in Europe
FitzGerald elected
to EPP council
Brussels

LA CITÉ Le Monde

Le programme politique du
Parti Populaire Européen est adopté
Un « programme commun » démocrate-chrétien
est mis au point par le parti populaire européen

SUNDAY TIMES

Tindemans party is first
in the field for Europe

GAZET VAN ANTWERPEN

Europese Volkspartij houdt eerste kongres in Brussel
Vertrouwen in Europa
bij kristendemokraten

Luxemburger Wort

EVP hält ersten Kongress ab
Europäische Volkspartei verabschiedet Parteiprogramm
und wählt Vorstand

IL TEMPO

Zaccagnini: portare avanti
l'« ideale » dell'Europa unita

NRC

Christen-democratie tegengewicht tegen links
Congres Europese Volkspartij

Handelsblad

Programmacongres
van de Europese Volkspartij
Tindemans: wij vertrouwen in de Europese kiezers

BAYERNKURIER

Für ein Europa
freier Menschen

DE NIEUWE GIDS

Van Agt op de bres
voor mensenrechten

LIBRE BELGIQUE

Le programme du P.P.E.:
une Europe d'hommes libres

LE SOIR

Ryan raps E.E.C.
'flying Parliament'

Programmacongres
van de Europese Volkspartij
Tindemans: wij vertrouwen in de Europese kiezers
Europese christen-democraten bijeen
Van Agt op de bres
voor mensenrechten

Le parti populaire européen
adopte son programme

EUROPE
LE COMITÉ DE COORDINATION DU PARTI POPULAIRE EUROPÉEN
Le Comité de Coordination du Parti Populaire Européen a réuni ses membres à Bruxelles le 7 avril 1978.



The EPP : A party with a European dimension

„The Christian Democrats have credentials to present to Europe which no one else can match. They have a vision which offers a reply to the questions which the European citizen is asking. They have leaders and workers who are ready and willing to fight for their convictions”.

Leo Tindemans

Cooperation between Christian Democrats, which was launched in 1921 under Luigi Sturzo, founder and chairman of the Partito Popolare in Italy, was pursued from 1946 in the "Nouvelles Equipes Internationales" and has continued since 1965 in the European Christian-Democratic Union (EUCDU) comprising 18 sister parties.

In 1970 a "standing conference" within the EUCDU was set up in which Christian-Democratic group and party leaders from EEC countries could work together with the Christian-Democratic Group to the European Parliament in order to stimulate the process of European integration. In 1972 this gave rise to the "Political Committee of the Christian-Democratic Parties of the Member States of the European Community".

The EUCDU Congress in Bonn in 1973 emphasized the need to begin the construction of a Christian-democratic party in the European Community.

At the beginning of 1975 Hans-August Lückner (CSU) and Wilfried Martens (CVP) were asked to draw up a constitution for this party.

On 29 April 1976, with the adoption of the constitution and the financial provisions, the European People's Party — Federation of the Christian-Democratic Parties of the European Community — was born. At the constituent meeting on 8 July 1976 the Belgian Prime Minister, Leo Tindemans, was elected President of the EPP, and the Political Bureau and the Executive Committee were installed.

The political programme committee drew up a draft programme, while the election campaign committee laid the basis for the propaganda activities.

Affiliated parties and organisations

Belgium	— Christelijke Volkspartij	CVP
	— Parti Social Chrétien	PSC
Federal Republic of Germany	— Christlich-Demokratische Union	CDU
	— Christlich-Soziale Union	CSU
France	— Centre des Démocrates Sociaux	CDS
Ireland	— Fine Gael	FG
Italy	— Democrazia Cristiana	DC
	— Südtiroler Volkspartei (observer)	SVP
Luxembourg	— Parti Chrétien Social	PCS/CSV
Netherlands	Christen-democratisch Appèl (CDA) :	
	— Anti-revolutionaire partij	ARP
	— Christelijke Historische Unie	CHU
	— Katholieke Volkspartij	KVP
— Christian Democratic Group of the European Parliament		
— European Young Christian Democrats		
— EEP-Women's Organisation		
Observers from outside the Community :		
Portugal	— Centro Democratico Social	
Spain	— Equipo Demócrata Cristiano del Estado español	

Statutes...

Preamble

"The following statute, based upon our Christian-Democratic concept of man and society and our desire to encourage in Europe a community of free individuals and responsible citizens each taking a full part in the social, economic and political structures of a pluralist society, a community which is just, peaceful and united in its dealings with all the peoples of the world, is hereby enacted".

Objectives

"The Party shall ensure close and permanent collaboration between its member parties and équipes in order to implement their common policy in the construction of a federal Europe. In particular :

- it shall participate in the elections to the European Parliament in accordance with the laws governing its direct election ;
- it shall uphold pluralist democracy on the basis of a common programme ;
- it shall participate in, and support the process of, European integration and cooperate in the transformation of Europe into a European Union with a view to achieving a Federal Union ;
- it shall support, coordinate and organize the European activities of its member parties".

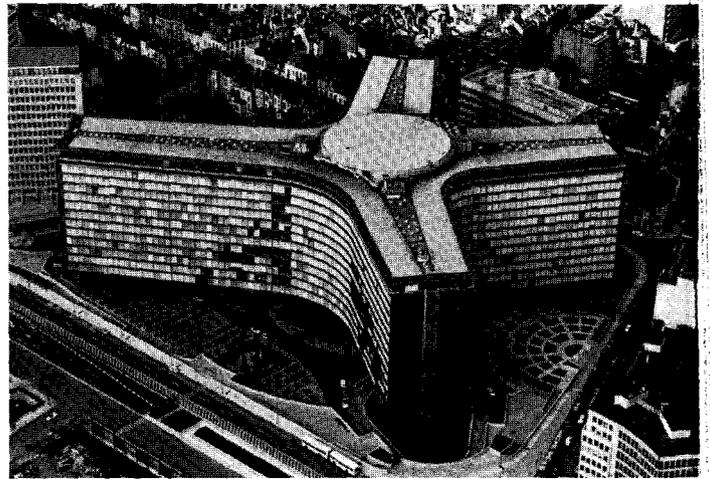
Président :
Leo Tindemans (CVP)

Vice-Présidents :
Dario Antonozzi (CD)
André Colin (CDS)
Norbert Schmelzer (CDA)
Kai-Uwe von Hassel (CDU)
Président of the EUCDU
Egon A. Klepsch (CDU)
Président of the CD Group
in the European Parliament

Treasurer :
Alfred Bertrand (CVP)

Responsible for Press :
Roger Peeters
(CD Group, European Parliament)

Secretariat EPP / EUCDU
Place de l'Albertine 2
1000 Brussels - Tel. (02) 512 83 67



In this building, in the heart of Brussels, 4 underground stops from the European-centre, where the Commission of the European Communities and the Council of Ministers are found, as well as the international press centre, which daily transmit uninterrupted information about European unification, is housed the press and information service of the Christian-Democratic Group of the European Parliament and of the European People's Party.

From this building, where more than 100 European deputies meet in committees every day, the Group sends out information on the activities of the Christian-Democrats in the European Parliament.

In its monthly published "CD-Europe" magazine in Dutch, English, French, German and Italian, the Christian-Democratic Group of the European Parliament endeavours to bring home to the public, the media and the political and social forces just what Christian-Democracy means.

After each part-session of the European Parliament a brief report is published to record the Christian-Democratic point of view. Furthermore, the Group regularly publishes a report on its activities which gives an insight into its work and structure.

The reports of the biannual study days are published under the title "European Digest".

With an eye to the forthcoming direct elections to the European Parliament, a handbook or vademecum is being prepared to illustrate Christian-Democracy as a political trend and as an organization at national, European and world level.

Direct elections are imminent, and during the run-up there is an especial need to give detailed information to the 180 million electors. The members of the European Parliament are best placed to bridge the gap by explaining the technological process of integration to the European citizen.

At present, there are 53 Christian-Democratic members of the European Parliament. Their experience in Europe will play a central role in preparations for the first direct elections in the Member States, the regions, the political parties, the social organisations, in short, in the social context where they have a key function as popular representatives.

You may contact these Members of Parliament through the group's press and information service :

European Parliament
Christian-Democratic Group / European People's Party
3, Boulevard de l'Empereur
1000 Brussels

Tel. (02) 513 40 70 - 512 49 00

Telex eurparl Brussels 24541

ROGER PEETERS
Press attaché





At the annual constituent sitting in March, at which the former Italian Christian-Democratic Prime Minister Emilio Colombo was re-elected President of the European Parliament, and two other Christian-Democrats, Pierre Deschamps and Hans-August Lückner, were elected first and second Vice-Presidents, the leader of the Christian-Democratic Group in the European Parliament, Egon Klepsch, announced that the Group would in future be known as the "Christian-Democratic Group (Group of the European People's Party)". The EPP is thus making its presence increasingly felt in the European Parliament.

Established on 11 September 1952 within the framework of the Common Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community, the Christian-Democratic Group has for twenty-five years formed the basis of a strong, Community-oriented approach by Christian-Democratic Members of Parliament from the various Member States of the European Community. In its constant concern with the practical problems of European integration it has always, after thorough discussion by its members, reached a joint position — propounded by a Group spokesman in plenary sittings of the European Parliament — which is based not only on the defence of the Christian-Democratic vision of society but also on the conscious promotion of the process of European integration

In this way the Group also did pioneering work in the creation of the European People's Party. The Group has for years been a practical demonstration of the fact that European Christian-Democracy is not a vague concept, and that the joint approach is no accident or mere party label.

The decisions formulated by the Group are based on thorough discussion and indicative voting, where there is definitely no question of members voting in national blocs.

The Group is fully conscious that it will continue to play a leading role in promoting the integration of Europe.

It represents the European People's Party; its medium-term programme is laid down in the Tindemans Report and its political objectives are set out in the European People's Party's fundamental programme. It works in close cooperation with the Christian-

The EPP in the European Parliament...

The chairman: "I give the floor to Mr. Ryan on behalf of the Christian Democratic Group (Group of the European People's Party)".

Democratic members of the Commission of the European Communities.

The Christian-Democratic Group of the European Parliament forms a natural link with the Christian-Democratic parties in the national parliaments of the Community.

Moreover, it constantly cooperates with international Christian-Democratic organisations, such as the ECDU and the CDWU, and supports them with all means in their activities.

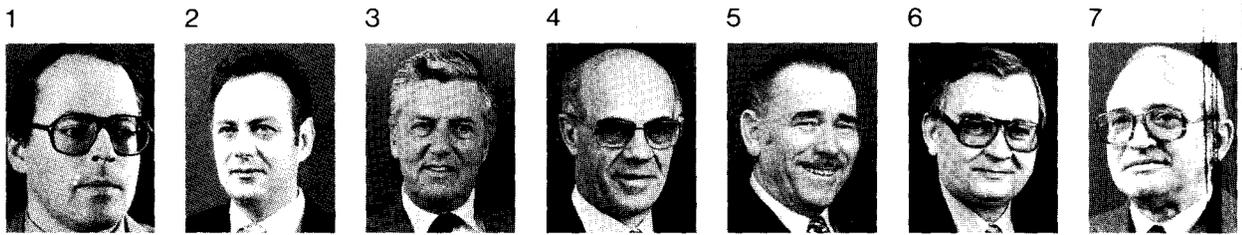
Through the frequent external relations of the European Parliament, as well in the frame of Association Treaties as by bilateral contacts with other parliaments (U S A, Canada, Latin-America) the Group also is concerned in the dialogue at world level.

General Secretariat of the CD Group,
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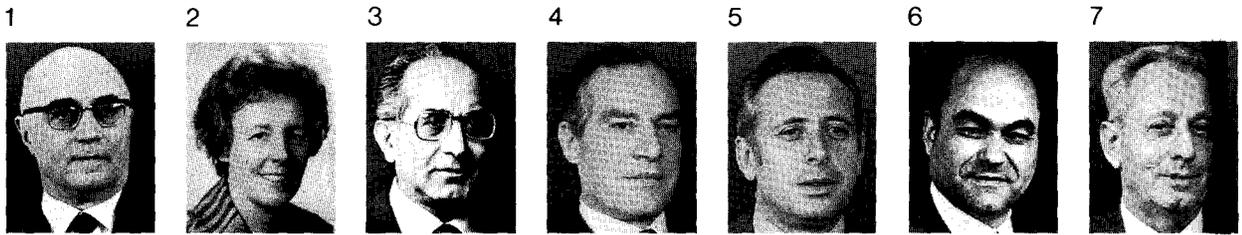
GIAMPAOLO BETTAMIO
Secretary General



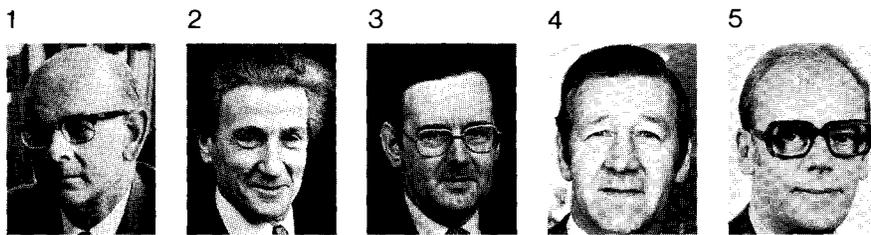
53 CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS IN



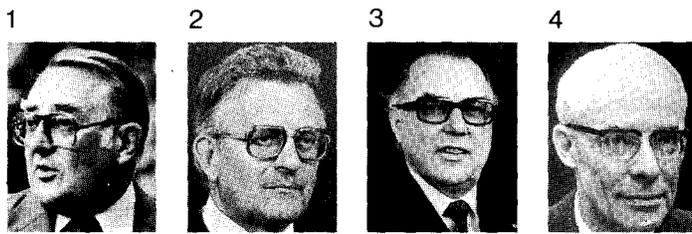
1. **JOCHEN VAN AERSEN** (4-8-10-14-15*) 2. **SIEGBERT ALBER** Chairman subcommittee "data processing and individual rights". (2-4-8*) 3. **ERIK BLUMENFELD** (1-9*) 4. **ISIDOR FRÜH** (4-6*) 5. **HANS EDGAR JAHN** Vice-chairman committee on the environment, public health and consumer protection and of the joint parliamentary committee ECC-Turkey. (1*) 6. **EGON A. KLEPSCH** Chairman of the Christian-Democratic Group, Vice-chairman EPP (1-15*) 7. **HANS JÜRGEN KLINKER** (6*)



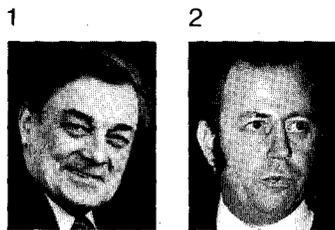
1. **GIOVANNI BERSANI** Co-chairman Joint Committee ACP-ECC. Vice-chairman committee on development and cooperation. (10-15*) 2. **MARIA LUISA CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI** (5-8-15*) 3. **EMILIO COLOMBO** Chairman European Parliament. Co-chairman Joint Parliamentary Assembly ACP-ECC. 4. **MARIO FIORET** (9-11-15-16*) 5. **LUIGI GRANELLI** (1-5*) 6. **GIOSUÈ LIGIOS** Vice-chairman committee on agriculture. (7-14*) 7. **MARIO MARTINELLI** Vice-chairman committee on external economic relations. (11-15-16*)



1. **WILHELM F. DE GAAY FORTMAN** (2-12*) 2. **FRANS VAN DER GUN** Chairman committee on social affairs, employment and education. (3-14*) 3. **HARRY NOTENBOOM** Vice-chairman CD-Group. Vice-chairman committee on economic and monetary affairs. (4-15*) 4. **TEUN TOLMAN** (6-7-10*) 5. **WILLEM VERGEER** (1-9-11-15-16*)



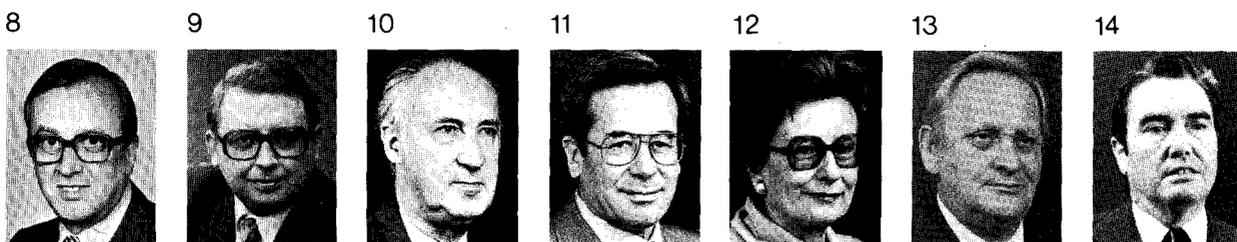
1. **HEINRICH AIGNER** Chairman "control" subcommittee. Vice-chairman committee on budgets. (13-15-16*) 2. **KARL FUCHS** (7-9*) 3. **HANS-A. LÜCKER** Vice-chairman European Parliament. (11-13-15-16*) 4. **HEINZ STARKE** (3-7*)



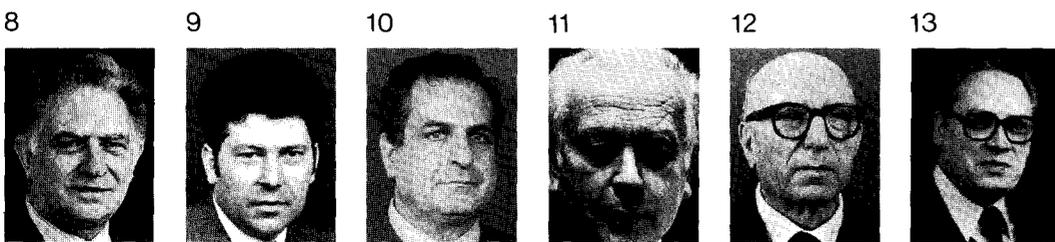
1. **CAMILLE NEY** (6-8*) 2. **JACQUES SANTER** Vice-chairman committee on the rules of procedure and petitions. (2-5-15*)

1. **PIERRE DESCHAMPS** Vice-chairman European Parliament. (3-11-15-16*) 2. **GUILLAUME SCHYNS** (7-8*)

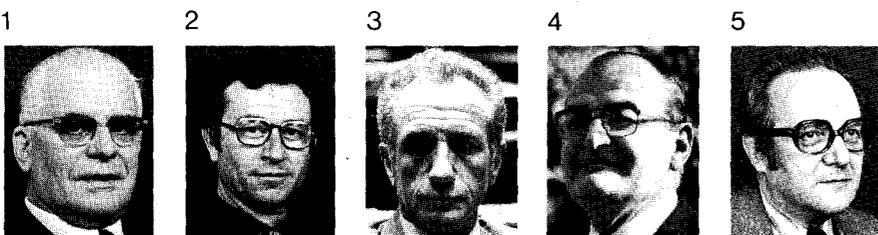
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



8. **RUDOLF LUSTER** (2-10-12*) 9. **HANS-WERNER MÜLLER** (3-4-9-15*) 10. **ERNST MÜLLER-HERMANN** (3-10*)
 11. **HERMANN SCHWÖRER** (2-3-10-15*) 12. **HANNA WALZ** Chairman committee on energy and research. (11-15-16*)
 13. **KURT WAWRZIK** (5-8-11-15-16*) 14. **WERNER ZEYER** (3-9-15*)



8. **LUIGI NOÈ** (7-8-9*) 9. **FERRUCCIO PISONI** Vice-chairman joint parliamentary committee ECC-Greece. (5-6-15*)
 10. **ERNESTO PUCCI** (2-6-15*) 11. **CAMILLO RIPAMONTI** (3-4-9*) 12. **MARIO SCELBA** (1-2*)
 13. **VINCENZO VERNASCHI** Vice-chairman CD-Group. (3-11-15-16*)



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 2. **PAUL DE KEERSMAEKER** (2-3*) 3. **MAURICE DEWULF** (6-11-12-15-16*)
 4. **MARCEL VANDEWIELE** (5-10-13-15-16*) 5. **JORIS VERHAEGEN** (8-9*)



1. **JEAN-MARIE CARO** (4-5-15*)
 2. **ANDRÉ COLIN** (1-7*) 3. **CLAUDE MONT** (10*)

1. **GERALD L'ESTRANGE** (6-10-13*)
 2. **CHARLES McDONALD** Vice-chairman committee on regional policy, regional planning and transport. (8-15-16*)
 3. **RICHIE RYAN** (1-4*)



1. **PETER BRUGGER** (6-7*)
 2. **ROLAND RIZ** Vice-chairman legal affairs committee. (12*)

* Parliamentary committees :

- 1. political affairs — 2. legal affairs — 3. economic and monetary affairs — 4. budgets — 5. social affairs, employment and education — 6. agriculture — 7. regional policy, regional planning and transport — 8. environment, public health and consumer protection — 9. energy and research — 10. external economic relations — 11. development and cooperation — 12. rules of procedure and petitions

Joint parliamentary committees :

- 13. EEC-Greece Association — 14. EEC-Turkey Association

- 15. **ACP-CEE Consultative Assembly** — 16. **ACP-CEE Joint Committee**

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Executive Bureau : Aigner, Colin, Granelli, Ryan, Santer, Vandewiele, Vergeer
Enlarged Bureau : Bertrand, Colombo, Deschamps, van der Gun, Lückner, Scelba, Walz



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