Beat: Politics

EPP Congress in Madrid re-elected Joseph Daul as President

The Congress end this Thursday

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USPA NEWS - The EPP delegates in the congress of Madrid re-elected President Joseph Daul to a three-year mandate at the helm of the party. Out of the 578 valid votes which were cast, 555 were in favour of President Daul, while 23 were against.

Following the vote, President Daul commented that “it is a tremendous honour to receive the support of the EPP political family for my next term as President. In tackling all of the issues we face, whether the migration crisis, the security challenges in our Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods, or boosting economic growth and employment, I will do my utmost to ensure that the EPP continues to lead Europe with policies reflecting our fundamental values of freedom, solidarity, responsibility and subsidiarity. Unity, continuity and responsibility will remain the keywords of my presidency. Our work will not always be easy, but I am more convinced than ever that our political family is the best choice for the people and the future of Europe.“

After his election as EPP President, Joseph Daul nominated Antonio Lopez-Isturiz for another mandate as Secretary General of the EPP. The delegates voted Thursday for the Secretary General, the ten Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer. In the first day of the congress, the EPP also adopted an in-depth document titled 'Protecting the Union and Promoting Our Values,' which focuses on foreign policy, security and defence. In addition, the delegates adopted a series of ordinary and emergency resolutions on specific topics, all of which be seen here.

Upon the adoption of these documents, President Daul stated: “Europe is facing new challenges in an environment in which boundaries between internal and external policies are almost non-existent. This new situation requires new answers. We are taking the lead in providing answers to these challenges, be it in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, or fiscal and economic policy.“

Also, “this Congress has proved once more that the EPP family can provide vision and guidance in difficult times. The EPP will work towards ensuring stability and cooperation in the Balkans so that these countries can move forward on the European path, and we will help the Eastern Partnership countries to counter Russian aggression, to reform and to become stable democracies. We will also work to put in place a stable partnership with Turkey, as well as with our partners in the MENA region. For this reason we have updated the EPP statutes to provide new opportunities for partnership between EPP-likeminded, pro-democracy political parties in countries belonging to the Union for the Mediterranean,“ Daul said.

“Today, the EPP stands united and confirms its intention to make decisive progress towards a political union with a common fiscal and economic policy, as well as a common foreign policy, security and defence. Our political family has contributed significantly to the success of the European Union, and today we are again leading by example,“ he added.

The plenary session also focused extensively on the migration crisis, featuring a high-level panel debate titled 'Migration: solutions to manage, ideas to integrate.' Moreover, the Congress adopted the emergency resolution 'Protecting refugees “ securing the EU´s external borders “ stepping up action against irregular migration.' In addition, the EPP Merit Award was presented to former European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and former European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso in recognition of their extraordinary service to Europe and their contributions to the EPP political family.

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UPA United Press Agency LTD
483 Green Lanes
UK, London N13NV 4BS
contact (at) unitedpressagency.com
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