



EPP 2017 Congress 29-30 March 2017, Malta

Congress Regulations (adopted by the EPP Political Assembly on 23-24 January 2017 in Brussels)

Article 1

In conformity with Article I a) of the EPP Internal Regulations, the following are the members of the Congress with voting rights:

- Members of the EPP Presidency;
- Presidents of Ordinary Member Parties, Associated Member Parties and Member Associations;
- Delegates of Ordinary Member Parties, Associated Member Parties and Member Associations
- Heads of State and of Government of Member States of the European Union, who are members of an Ordinary Member Party;
- Individual Members of the Association (cf. article 5, alinea 4 of the by-laws);
- Members of the European Commission provided they are members of an Ordinary Member Party;
- Presidents of the EPP, like-minded or associated Groups, at the Parliamentary Assemblies of the CoE, the OSCE and NATO, the Committee of the Regions, Union for the Mediterranean and EURONEST provided that they are a member of an Ordinary Member Party or an Associated Member Party;
- Delegates of the EPP, like-minded or associated Groups, at the Parliamentary Assemblies of the CoE, the OSCE and NATO, the Committee of the Regions, Union for the Mediterranean and EURONEST, provided that they are member of an Ordinary Member Party or Associated Member Party.

Article 2

The Congress sits in public; it may however choose to meet in camera.

Article 3

Member parties, member associations and the EPP Group in the Committee of the Regions and in the Parliamentary Assemblies of the Council of Europe, the OSCE, the NATO, Union for the Mediterranean and Euronest must, by **Wednesday 15 March 2017** at the latest, inform the General Secretariat of the names and addresses of their delegates. They must at the same time nominate their Heads of Delegation.

ORGANS

Article 4

The Congress will meet in plenary. It can verify that the quorum has been reached.

Article 5

The Amendment Committee meets as Resolution Committee in order to examine draft resolutions as well as draft emergency resolutions on current political issues which have been deposited in conformity with the present regulations.

Article 6

The Amendment Committee:

- will deliberate, in conformity with Article 9 c), on amendments to the Congress Document which will be presented to the Congress for adoption;
- is composed of:
 - the President and Rapporteur of the Working Group;
 - a representative of each Member Party;
 - three representatives of the EPP Group in the EP;
 - one representative of each member Association and of the EPP Groups in the Committee of the Regions, the Parliamentary Assemblies of the Council of Europe, the OSCE and NATO, Union for the Mediterranean and EURONEST.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONGRESS DOCUMENT - RESOLUTIONS

Article 7

The following can introduce amendments to the Congress Document and draft resolutions:

- a) the EPP Presidency;
- b) Ordinary Member Parties or Associated Member Parties;
- c) the EPP Group in the European Parliament;
- d) the EPP Groups in the Committee of the Regions, the Parliamentary Assemblies of the Council of Europe, the OSCE and NATO, Union for the Mediterranean and EURONEST;
- e) the member Associations.

Article 8

Time limits for the introduction of draft resolutions are as follows:

- a) draft resolutions can be introduced until **Monday 13 February 2017**. They have to be introduced in English language;
- b) draft emergency resolutions can be introduced until **Thursday, 23 March 2017**. They have to be introduced in English language. In accordance with Article 5, the Resolution Committee will judge whether said draft emergency resolutions are admissible.

Article 9

Amendments to the Congress Document can be introduced until **Monday 13 February 2017**.

Amendments to the Congress Document voted upon in the Amendment Committee:

- a) which are rejected by at least a 2/3 (two thirds) majority of delegates present, are definitively rejected;
- b) which are approved by an at least 2/3 (two thirds) majority of those present are definitively adopted;
- c) which obtain more than 1/3 (one third) of the votes but which do not attain 2/3 (two thirds) of the votes of delegates present, are presented to the Congress for vote by simple majority on the advice of the Amendment Committee.
- d) The Presidency may propose amendments to the Congress Document also after the set deadline and directly to the Congress delegates.

Article 10

The Congress Document, resolutions and emergency resolutions will be approved by the Congress plenary with a simple majority.

PROCEDURE**Article 11**

As a general rule, participants should request the floor in writing and indicate the nature of the proposed intervention.

Article 12

The President wishes that the mandated representatives of the member parties, associations and EPP Groups can take part in the debate in a balanced manner. He can limit speaking time and can, with the agreement of the delegates present, close the debate or the list of speakers. Rules for taking the floor in the plenary are stipulated in the Annex.

ANNEX

Rules for taking the floor in the plenary

§ 1 Requesting oral interventions in the plenary

Every delegate with voting rights in the Congress is permitted to take the floor according to the rules outlined herein. The speakers can take the floor using the microphones available in the plenary. In order to allow for smooth functioning of the Congress and compliance with the timetables, oral interventions have to be registered at the speakers' registration desk in the congress plenary room. The request should be made with the form that will be available at the speakers' registration desk. The registration of oral interventions is possible on:

- Wednesday 29 March 2017 from 14.30 – 16.00 hrs
- Thursday 30 March 2017 from 9.30 – 10.30 hrs

§ 2 Restrictions

During the general discussion on the Congress Document, a maximum of ten interventions are allowed. In case of more requests, only the first ten requests will receive speaking rights.

On every individual amendment to the Congress Document as well as on every individual resolution one intervention is permitted in favour and one against.

If the introducing party or association requests the floor it will always receive the right to speak first.

Every intervention is limited to one minute. The speaking time will be controlled and displayed on the screen.

§ 3 Interventions and votes

Procedurally, the discussion on amendments and on the resolutions will be separated from the votes. The voting will be done after the discussion has been concluded.