



**EUROPÄISCHE SENIOREN UNION
EUROPEAN SENIOR CITIZENS' UNION
L'UNION EUROPEENNE DES SENIORS**



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Press Release of the European Senior Citizens' Union (ESCU)

Centre Right Strengthened

The European Senior Citizens' Union President Dr. Worms on the results of the European Parliament Elections

Brussels, 7th of June 2009: “As varied as the individual results may be, the increased votes for the centre right in the Elections held last weekend strengthens the European Parliament. Voting behaviour in countries such as Austria, Germany, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Italy, Spain, Hungary, Poland and some others gives reason for optimism” explained Dr. Bernhard Worms, President of the European Senior Citizens' Union (ESCU) today in Brussels.

“With their votes the EU citizens – including noticeably many senior citizens – decided to maintain the position of the European Peoples Party (EPP) as the strongest power in the parliament, and appointing the president.

As President of the European Senior Citizens' Union with nearly 500,000 members active in 28 countries I feel indeed proud that the candidates of the Christian democratic parties were excellently supported almost everywhere by the senior citizen's generation. Since their social recognition and pension provisions leave much to be desired in a string of Eastern and Central-Eastern European states, the expectations on the newly elected parliament for greater social fairness are high.”

Against the backdrop of the disappointing 43-percent turnout, the European Senior Citizens' President expressed the necessity that European politics have in future to become even more transparent and the results be presented more convincingly. “These demands must be also satisfied by the European Senior Citizens' Union. A common front against right wing extremists and Euro-sceptics who gained seats in some of the EU countries would seem equally important to me.”

Dr. Worms continued:

“The achievements of European integration may never be put at risk! The Treaty of Lisbon deserves to be ratified as soon as possible with the vote of Ireland since it ensures EU activities at the highest level.”

The European Senior Citizens' Union President dismissed the attempts of some parties to hinder democratic developments in some of the states through their votes in the EU Parliament; “Europe still has to deal with the consequences of two dictatorships, and has been striving for freedom and the inviolability of human dignity, corresponding with the Christian concept of mankind.

Our continent must be a haven of freedom, social fairness and preservation of the Creation. The European Senior Citizens' Union also expects the currently elected Parliament members to passionately advocate these principles, which is the measure by which we will judge them."

Dr. Bernhard Worms

President of the European Senior Citizens' Union

Honorary Chair of the Senior Citizens' Union of the German Christian Democratic Union (CDU).

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