



Joseph Daul
President of the European People's Party

March , 5th 2019

Dear President,

Last November, I was elected as the EPP Lead Candidate for the 2019 European elections with a clear mandate. At that time, I was convinced that all together we would courageously represent the values that the Christian Democrats have always stood for.

Precisely because of the FIDESZ party's approval of our Resolution on Values and its support to my candidacy, I had the hope for unity. However, this hope has vanished due to the developments of recent days and weeks.

We can only be a credible, strong, successful and forward-looking political force if we follow a common basic understanding. The repeated attacks on EPP leaders, the unwillingness to resolve the open infringement procedures and, in recent days, the attacks against other EPP Member Parties ("useful idiots") severely damage the unity of our party. They also seriously harm the heritage of our Founding Fathers, such as Konrad Adenauer, Alcide de Gasperi and Robert Schuman, as well as those of Helmut Kohl and Wilfried Martens.

The decision on the future Membership of FIDESZ within the EPP will be on the agenda of our Political Assembly on 20 March. In order to preserve the unity of the EPP, FIDESZ must take concrete steps and demonstrate the will to remain a Member of the EPP. To this end, the following points are key:

- The posters and other advertising materials used to run a fake news campaign against Jean-Claude Juncker must be withdrawn immediately;
- FIDESZ must understand that this campaign has caused considerable political damage. Many in the EPP expect FIDESZ to fully recognise this, and to commit to refrain from these attacks in the future;
- The freedom of science is fundamental to us. Therefore, the pending legal issues regarding the Central European University must be clarified.

There are further issues on the table that need clarification. But the above-mentioned requirements must be clarified by 20 March. By doing so, the FIDESZ Party would send a signal that it continues to be interested in being a Member of the EPP. It has always been my priority, especially as leader of the EPP Group, to build bridges, and I will continue to do everything it takes in the future to strengthen unity and cohesion in Europe. If FIDESZ, led by Viktor Orbán, fails to meet the above-mentioned requirements, the only option would be to exclude the Party from the EPP.

Yours sincerely,
Manfred Weber
EPP Lead Candidate for President of the European Commission

