

**Draft Resolution submitted by the ESCU to the EPP Congress, Warsaw, 29-30 April 2009**

**Support of the work of the European Senior Citizens' Union in all Member States of the EPP  
through establishing independent organizational units**

**The EPP Congress in Warsaw concludes:**

That all EPP member parties are called upon to support the work of the European Senior Citizens' Union and – insofar as this is still not the case – to build and expand organizational units within their party structure, in which elderly citizens are able to undertake tasks voluntarily and help to solve the problems which we are arising from demographic factors in a changing world.

**Justification:**

The European Senior Citizens' Union, which was founded in Madrid in 1995 and currently has a membership of 38 organisations in 27 European countries, represents the interests of senior citizens in Europe and stands for the following basic principles: cooperation, collaboration, co-responsibility and co-determination on all the issues affecting senior citizens across Europe.

In the words of the “creed” of the ESCU:

“We want to be the mainstays of our society in a changing world. It's for this reason that we concentrate on questions of solidarity and justice across the generations.”

It's in the interests of each and every member party to embrace and promote the concerns of senior citizens, if only in the knowledge that, with their steadily increasing life expectancy, senior citizens will be the largest bloc of voters in the future. For this reason, not one member party can afford not to actively support the work of the European Senior Citizens' Union.

The senior citizens of Europe are the founding fathers of the European Union and represent for the most part the Christian and humanitarian values on which the policies of EPP Member Parties are based. This is the reason why senior citizens give their vote to the Member Parties of the EPP not only in European elections.

It therefore is indispensable to support the senior citizens in their fight against problems that arise in changing times and to give them the possibility to actively shape the future.