Christian Democrats in government in the European Union from 1979 to 2013. Priorities in programmatic activity over the seven terms of the European Parliament

The European People’s Party Group (EEP) is comprised of centre- and centre-right, pro-European political forces from the EU member countries. In its programme, it emphasises that it works toward a Europe which is more competitive and democratic, closer to its citizens and supportive of the social market economy. The EPP was the first international political party formed on a European level. At present, it constitutes the largest political force in the European Parliament. As the largest political group in the Parliament, it has more influence than any other party on the forming of the agenda of its sittings and the results of the voting in the debates. This quantitative advantage is also reflected in the number of key positions occupied by its members in the parliamentary structures. In view of this advantage, it is able to implement its policy successfully in the key EU areas, namely, foreign policy, the economy and the budget, as well as structural policies.

Key words: Christian Democracy, European Parliament, political fractions, European integration.