

Mr Rumen Hristov Chairman of UDF Rakovski Street 134 1000 Sofia Bulgaria

Brussels, 11 June 2019

Dear Mr Hristov, Done Primer.

After a European wide campaign as a united party family, and the tremendous hard work by all of our member parties across the continent, the EPP is by far the strongest party following the European elections. While we are humbly regretful that we go into this next mandate with fewer EPP seats in the European Parliament, at the same time we are still the biggest party, by a wide margin. In 15 countries, our sister parties represent the biggest political force; and we have won seats in 26 Member States. This gives us an important responsibility for Europe's future.

More than 50% of eligible voters made their voice heard on the last weekend of May. European democracy is alive! People are telling us clearly: Europe matters to them. What is more, voters are telling us that more than any other party, they choose the European People's Party, Indeed, it is our programme, our vision for the continent, that now moves into this next phase with a clear democratic mandate.

Without a stable majority in the European Parliament and in the Council, Europe will stand still. Our politics must be able to deliver clear and decisive action; we need cooperation, not polarisation, between the pro-European forces of the centre. In the same way: we stand for a better, more democratic Europe and remain 100% committed to the lead candidate process. We cannot turn back now; for the lead candidate process represents a simple, yet powerful, step forward for democracy and transparency in Europe.

Thank you all for your ongoing work within the EPP family to make our party the strong, trusted force that has once again proven that voters in Europe can rely on. Thank you for your support — both before and since our memorable Helsinki Congress in November 2018 — in my campaign as EPP lead candidate for President of the European Commission. Thank you, too, for your support now going forward as we look to form a stable majority to lead Europe to open a new chapter.

I look forward to continuing to work together with you all.

Best regards

Manfred Weber

Candidate for the President of the European Commission

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