

On North Macedonia's membership in NATO and the EU

The Council of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Berlin, Germany, on 9 of February 2019:

Welcomes:

- the implementation of the Prespa Agreement for final settlement of the Greek-Macedonian name dispute through the historic votes in the Macedonian and the Greek parliaments in January 2019;
- the signing of the Protocol for membership of North Macedonia in NATO on 06 February 2019.

Emphasises:

- the importance of the determination demonstrated by the Macedonian government to build good neighbourly relations and to promote internal reforms aimed at integration into the EU and NATO.

Condemns:

- the granting of political asylum by the Hungarian authorities to the former Macedonian PM Gruevski.

Recalls:

- the conclusions of the Progress Report of the European Parliament as well as the Conclusions of the European Council on the conditional start of the EU/MK accession negotiations in 2019.

Reiterates:

- the continued support of ALDE and its members for LDP and Macedonia, now called North Macedonia.

Calls on:

- the June 2019 European Council to set a date for the first EU/MK Intergovernmental Conference and the EU accession negotiations by the end of 2019, based on the fulfilment of the criteria;
- European NATO member states to ratify the Membership Protocol as soon as possible so that North Macedonia can be fully integrated into NATO already in 2019.

Resolution:

On North Macedonia's membership in NATO and the EU

Year and Council:

Berlin, Germany 2019

Category:

Foreign Affairs

Page:

1

Supports:

- the LDP ahead of the upcoming presidential elections in hope that the citizens will elect a President of the Republic who will advocate for further liberal reforms in the nation.

Encourages:

- the other Southeast European nations to seize the positive momentum created by North Macedonia and Greece and to accelerate their EU membership prospects by resolving the open bilateral issues and by furthering their national reform agendas.

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Page:

2