

Unlocking EU accession and strengthening long lasting support for Ukraine

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Brussels on 24-25 October 2025:

Notes that:

- The European Council formally opened accession negotiations with Ukraine in 2024, following unanimous agreement among all 27 EU member states;
- Hungary has since blocked the progress by invoking an informal procedural veto not codified in the EU treaties;
- This obstruction has stalled progress under the Polish EU Council Presidency, despite broad support from other member states;
- The Danish government, under the current EU Presidency, has committed to exerting maximum political and diplomatic pressure to overcome Hungary's blockade;
- The informal veto mechanism used by Hungary is not part of the EU treaties and could be reformed without requiring treaty changes;
- The Article 7 procedure against Hungary (which could ultimately result in Hungary being stripped of its voting rights in the EU) remains active due to ongoing violations of EU fundamental values, including rule of law and democratic standards;
- Along with peace efforts, it is essential to ensure long lasting and sufficient military, financial and humanitarian support for Ukraine as well as strengthening sanctions against Russia;
- Ukraine, Moldova, and the Western Balkan countries have demonstrated their commitment to European values and seek closer integration with the EU as a strategic alternative to Russian influence and strengthening democracy and stability in Europe.

Believes that:

- Smooth accession of Ukraine and other European candidate countries is essential for strengthening European security, democracy, and resilience;
- EU membership perspective of Ukraine is key for the country's upcoming recovery and revival;
- Allowing a single member state to indefinitely block progress undermines the EU's credibility, unity, and ability to respond to geopolitical challenges;
- The EU must uphold its founding principles of solidarity, democracy, and rule of law in its enlargement process;
- Accession of Ukraine and other candidate countries must, as always, be conditional on the fulfilment of the Copenhagen criteria, ensuring respect for democracy, rule of law, human rights, and a functioning market economy;
- Reforming informal procedures that enable unilateral vetoes is necessary to ensure fair and transparent accession negotiations;
- The continued obstruction by Hungary reflects a broader challenge to EU cohesion and must be

addressed through both political and institutional means.

Calls for:

- **Immediate action to reform the informal procedural rules** governing the opening of negotiation chapters, ensuring that such decisions cannot be blocked by a single member state outside the scope of treaty-based mechanisms;
- **Continued pressure on Hungary** through political and diplomatic channels and, the escalation of Article 7 proceedings to address violations of EU values and restore institutional integrity;
- **Support for the Danish EU Presidency's efforts** to open all six negotiation chapters with Ukraine and to explore alternative legal and procedural pathways to bypass unjustified vetoes;
- **A reaffirmation of the EU's commitment to enlargement** as a tool for peace, stability, and democratic development, particularly in regions vulnerable to authoritarian influence;
- **A call on ALDE member parties** to advocate nationally and within EU institutions for a more resilient and principled enlargement framework that reflects the urgency of current geopolitical realities while firmly upholding the Copenhagen Criteria;
- **Ensuring** sustainable support for Ukraine in its efforts to bring just and lasting peace, that includes effective prosecution of war crimes, releasing Ukrainian war prisoners as well as returning all forcefully abducted kids.