

## AMENDMENT FORM

### Suggestion for amendment of Article 1.1, 1.3 and 1.4 (new):

**By Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallén and Mr Sven-Olof Petersson, government representatives and Mr Sören Lekberg, Mr Göran Lenmarker, Mr Kenneth Kvist and Mr Ingvar Svensson, national parliament representatives.**

**Status :** - **Members: Hjelm-Wallén, Lekberg and Lenmarker**  
- **Alternates: Petersson, Kvist and Svensson**

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1. Reflecting the will of the peoples and the States of Europe to build a common future, **by this Constitutional Treaty hereinafter called 'the Constitution', the HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES establish among themselves<sup>1</sup> a EUROPEAN UNION, hereinafter called 'the Union'<sup>2</sup>** ~~this Constitution establishes a Union [entitled ...]~~, within which the policies of the Member States shall be coordinated, and which shall administer certain common competences on a federal basis.

3. The Union shall be open to all European states, that ~~whose people~~<sup>3</sup> share the same values and ~~which~~ respect them and are committed to promoting them together.

**4. The Union shall take decisions as openly as possible and as closely as possible to its citizens.<sup>4</sup>**

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### Explanation

<sup>1</sup> This text highlights the fact the Member States remain the masters of the Treaty.

<sup>2</sup> The European Union should not change its name.

<sup>3</sup> It is the States that should share and respect the same values.

<sup>4</sup> Corresponds to the text in Article 1 EU (second sentence). The Amsterdam Treaty introduced the principle that the decisions of the Union should be taken “*as openly as possible and as closely as possible to the citizen.*” It is important to retain this phrase in the introductory articles of a constitutional treaty: leaving it out would seem as a step backwards in the eyes of the citizens. This is even more so given that the Laeken Declaration states that “*[w]ithin the Union, the European institutions must be brought closer to its citizens. Citizens ... want the European institutions to be less unwieldy and rigid and, above all, more efficient and open.*” The importance of transparency is highlighted throughout the Laeken Declaration.