

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article1, paragraph 1

By Mr : MacCormick, Neil

Status : - Alternate

Delete the present text of Article 1.1 and substitute the following:

1. Mindful that, after more than fifty years of endeavour in peace and in mutual solidarity, the States and Peoples within a great part of the European Continent have successfully established a Union of a unique kind among themselves, and endowed it with a common citizenship, we the citizens of this European Union and our several states hereby adopt the following Constitution in order the better to regulate our common affairs, to declare the values and objectives of our Union, and to establish in an effective and democratic way the competences of the several Institutions of this Union

1 bis Freedom of information and active citizenship being fundamental for the legitimacy of the Union's decisions and actions, we are therefore determined that it shall take all its decisions as openly as possible and closely as possible to the citizen.

Explanation: *The Union already exists, and has proven its durability as a polity of a unique kind. The task is therefore to establish a proper constitution for this Union, and it should be clear that those who establish it are those who are already its citizens, acting through the member States whose citizens they also are. Whether and to what extent the Constitution endows the Union with a federal character is a consequence of its contents, not a condition to be stated in the opening Article.*

The point about freedom and openness of information surely belongs at the very outset of a new citizens' constitution.