

## AMENDMENT FORM

### Suggestion for amendment of Article : 1 (1)

By Mr : SÖDERMAN

Status : Observer

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Reflecting the will of the peoples and the States of Europe to build a common future, 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~~ **in which decisions are taken as openly as possible and as closely as possible to the citizen. The [title ...] is based on co-operation between the Member States, co-ordination of their policies and the exercise of certain common competences on a federal basis.**

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### Explanation (if any) :

European citizens believe that the Union is too secretive and bureaucratic. My experience as European Ombudsman is that the situation is better than is often believed. However, it is important not to abandon the express commitment to openness and closeness to the citizen contained in the present Article 1 TEU.

If this suggestion is accepted, the second part of the sentence would need to become a separate sentence. The proposed text is intended to express the same ideas as the original, with the addition of co-operation between the Member States, which is an important aspect of the Union's functioning.