

## AMENDMENT FORM

**Suggestion for amendment of : Part One, Title III, New Article 16A: Open Method of Coordination**

**By Mr Proinsias de Rossa**  
**Status : Member**

**co-signed by Mr Henrik Dam Kristensen, member, Mr John Gormley, alternate, Mr Panayiotis Demetriou, member, Mr Jens-Peter Bonde, member, Ms Sylvia-Yvonne Kaufmann, member, Mr Pat Carey, alternate, Mr Alberto Costa, member, Mr Guilherme d'Oliveira Martins, alternate, and Mr Vytenis Andriukaitis, member**

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### **New Article 16A: Open Method of Coordination**

1. Where the Constitution excludes harmonization, and does not specifically regulate co-ordination, the attainment of common European goals through national policies may be pursued by the open method of co-ordination, whenever the Member States so decide.
2. The open method of co-ordination shall be based on the definition of common guidelines or objectives, with appropriate arrangements for periodic monitoring and evaluation. It may provide for timetables, indicators, benchmarking and exchange of best practice.
3. The European Council shall approve the definitions and adapt the method to match the specific needs of the particular policy area in which it wishes to promote co-ordination. At its request, the Commission shall support the process by presenting proposals on guidelines and indicators, organizing exchange of best practice and preparing the necessary elements for periodic monitoring and evaluation. The European Parliament, and the national parliaments, shall be kept fully informed.

### **Explanation**

Since the Lisbon European Council the open method of co-ordination has been successfully applied to a series of subjects, primarily in the field of employment and social affairs and has facilitated the dissemination of best practice, thus ensuring greater convergence of national policies towards important EU goals.

The open method represents a significant contribution to the progressive movement away from traditional legislative approaches to new methods of working where the legislative approach is inappropriate. It is important that this innovative and flexible method of co-operation between Member States is given a place in the constitutional text.

It is particularly important to provide for the systematic involvement of the European Parliament and of the national parliaments by the provision of relevant information.