

## AMENDMENT FORM

### Suggestion for amendment of Article 15:

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on behalf of the EPP Convention Group

Status: Members and Alternates

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*Text of the Praesidium*

*Proposed Amendments*

#### Article 15: Areas for supporting action

1. The Union may take coordinating, complementary or supporting action. The scope of this competence is determined by the provisions of Part Two.
2. The areas for supporting action are:
  - employment
  - industry
  - education, vocational training and youth
  - culture
  - sport
  - protection against disasters.
3. The Member States shall coordinate their national employment policies within the Union.
4. Legally binding acts adopted by the Union on the basis of the provisions specific to these areas in Part Two cannot entail harmonisation of Member States' laws or regulations.

#### Article 15: ~~Areas for supporting action~~ *Supporting competences*

1. The Union may take coordinating, complementary or supporting action *in the following areas*:-  
~~The scope of this competence is determined by the provisions of Part Two.~~
- ~~2. The areas for supporting action are:~~
  - *incentive measures in the field of* employment with regard to the policies of the Member States,
  - ~~industry~~ *specific measures ensuring that the conditions necessary for the competitiveness of the Union's industry exist,*  
~~education, vocational training and youth~~
  - *measures contributing to the development of quality education and of a European dimension in education,*
  - *vocational training policy*
  - *youth, in particular youth exchange*
  - *the fight against drug abuse,*
  - culture,
  - sport
  - ~~protection against disasters~~ *civil protection in the case of exceptional events or disas-*

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32. The Member States shall coordinate their national employment policies within the Union *in a way consistent with the broad economic policy guidelines*.
  3. (new) *The details regarding the extent of the supporting competences are set out in Part Two of the Constitution.*
  4. Legally binding acts adopted by the Union *in the field of supporting competences* ~~on the basis of the provisions specific to these areas in Part Two~~ cannot entail harmonisation of Member States' laws or regulations.
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#### **Explanation:**

##### ***Para 1, 2 and 3(new):***

- *This constitutional provision should set out as clearly as possible the supporting competences of the Union. **The list of supporting competences should be comprehensive**. Any reference to Part Two should only relate to the details of these competences, but not to their existence as such – all issues of power must be settled in Part One.*
- *The **definition of the individual supporting competences** should more closely follow the *acquis* and also make explicit that these are only supporting competences – otherwise one risks to disappoint and frustrate the citizens. This is in particular the case with regard to the supporting competences related to **employment, industry and education**.*

##### **Para 3 (now 2):**

*The important principle that the **coordination of employment policies** through the employment guidelines need to be **consistent with the broad economic policy guidelines** – currently stated in Article 126(1) of the EC Treaty – should not be changed.*