

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : I-46, part I, title VI (CONV 724/03)

By Mr : Prof. Dr. Jürgen Meyer, Delegate of the German Bundestag

Status: - Member -

members: Akcam, Zekeriya; Amato, Guiliano; Andriukaitis, Vytenis; Athanasiu, Alexandru; Avgerinos, Paraskevas; Belohorska, Irena; Borrell Fontelles, Josep; Costa, Alberto Bernardes; Dam Kristensen, Henrik; De Rossa, Proinsias; Demetriou, Panayiotis; Dini, Lamberto; Duhamel, Oliver; Einem, Caspar; Fayot, Ben; Giannakou-Koutsikou, Marietta; Gricius, Algirdas; Haenel, Hubert; Helminger, Poul; Kaufmann, Sylvia-Yvonne; Kiljunen, Kimmo; Laborda, Gabriel Cisneros; Lequiller, Pierre; Marinho, Luis; Mavrou, Eleni; Oleksy, Jozef; Serracino-Inglott, Peter; Skaarup, Peter; Timermans, Frans; Vastagh, Pal; Voggenhuber, Johannes.

alternates: Abitbol, William; Alonso, Alejandro Munoz; Arabadjiev, Alexandar; Basile, Filadelfio Guido; Berger, Maria; Budak, Necdet; Carey, Pat; Carnero Gonzalez, Carlos; D'Oliveira Martins, Guilherme; Eckstein-Kovacs, Peter; Ene, Constantin; Floch, Jacques; Fogler, Marta; Garrido, Diego Lopez; Giberyen, Gaston; Gormley, John; Grabowska, Genowefa; Katiforis, Giorgos; Krasts, Guntars; Kroupa, Frantisek; Lichtenberger, Evelin; Mac Gormick, Neil; MacLennan of Rogart, Lord; Matsakis, Marios; Nagy, Marie; Nazare Pereira, Antonio; Severin, Adrian; Sivickas, Gintautas Speroni, Francesco; Spini, Valdo; Styllanides, Evripides; The Earl of Stockton, Alexander; Vassilou, Androula; Vella, George.

observers:

Du Granrut, Claude; Sigmund, Anne-Marie; Sepi, Mario.

Artikel I-46 (4): Citizens of the Union have the right to request the Commission

Citizens of the Union may request the Commission to submit any appropriate proposal on matters on which they consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing this Constitution.

Further provisions that particularly regulate the specific procedures and the numbers of signatures that have to be gathered are to be laid down in an European law.

Explanation:

The effect of the above proposal is to bring Europe closer to the people, as Laeken recommended. It represents a large step in the democratisation of the Union.

It will extend the existing right of petition to a right of the citizens to present legislative proposals to the Commission of the EU. The commission has then to decide whether it will take legislative activity or not.

It is very important that the threshold for the signatures that are to be gathered for the European Citizens' Legislative Submission is not too high. A high threshold interferes with the process and effectively allow only powerful organizations the possibility of securing the required signatures.