

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 34(2)

By Mr. Frans Timmermans

Status : Member of the European Convention

The Union institutions, agencies and bodies shall, by appropriate means, give citizens, natural or legal persons residing in a member state, ~~and~~ representative associations and civil society the opportunity to make known and publicly exchange their opinions on all areas of Union action.

Explanation:

It is important that the Union's agencies and bodies also participate in this part of the Union's democratic life. Furthermore, as I explained in my amendment of article 33, there is no need to limit the provisions in this article to the Union's citizens, therefore excluding persons naturally or legally residing in a Member State. In order to refrain from a discussion about the degree to which an organisation is "representative" it is important that civil society is included in this provision. This is in line with the wording used in article 34(3).