

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of: PART I OF THE CONSTITUTION, TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions, Article 17a : Council formations

By Ms / Mr : BROK; SANTER; TAJANI; TEUFEL; VAN DER LINDEN; ALTMAIER; AZEVEDO; BASILE; BREJC; CUSHNAHAN; DEMETRIOU; DOLORES; FOGLER; FRENO; KAUPPI; KELEMEN; KORHONEN; KRASTS; KROUPA; LENNMARKER; MAIJ-WEGGEN; MLADENOV; PIKS; RACK; VAN DIJK; WITTBRODT; ZILE

Status : - Member - Alternate

Suggestion

TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions

Article 17a : Council formations

1. The General Affairs Council shall ensure consistency in the work of the Council of Ministers. With the participation of the Commission, it shall prepare meetings of the European Council.
2. The Legislative Council shall consider and, jointly with the European Parliament, enact European laws and European framework laws, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Each Member State's ministerial representative may be assisted by one or, if necessary, two specialist ministers, reflecting the business on the Council agenda. ***The Legislative Council shall meet in public.***
3. The Foreign Affairs Council shall, on the basis of strategic guidelines laid down by the European Council, flesh out the Union's external policies, and ensure that its actions are consistent. It shall be chaired by the Union's Foreign Minister.
4. The Council shall also meet in the configuration of an Economic and Financial Affairs Council, and a Council on Justice and Security.
5. The Council, in its General Affairs formation, may decide on further formations.
6. The European Council may decide by ~~consensus~~ ***qualified majority*** that the ~~Presidency Chair~~ of a Council formation, other than that of Foreign Affairs, should be undertaken by ***a minister of a Member State for a period of at least a year and two and a half years in the maximum,*** taking into account European political and geographical balance and the diversity of all Member States. ***The European Council may decide by the same procedure that the Commission President or the Vice-Presidents of the Commission could chair Council formations other than that of Foreign Affairs.***

Explanation (if any) :

It should be clarified that the European Council meets in public.

The Chairs of other Council formations should be facilitated in a more flexible way. Therefore, qualified majority voting is indispensable.