

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : I-23

By Mr : Hain

Status : - Member

1. *Okay.*
 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 representation on the Legislative Council shall be ensured by a ministerial representative and one or two representatives at the same level with relevant expertise, reflecting the business on the Council agenda.~~
 3. *Okay.*
 4. ~~The Council shall also meet in the configuration of an Economic and Financial Affairs Council, and a Council on Justice and Security.~~
 5. *Okay.*
 6. These formations shall be chaired by a team of Member States, membership of which shall be determined by a system of rotation, following the principle of equality between Member States. The European Council may decide by consensus that the Presidency of a Council formation, other than that of Foreign Affairs, should be undertaken by a Member State for a period of at least a year, taking into account European political and geographical balance and the diversity of all Member States.
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Explanation (if any) :

We do not support the creation of a Legislative Council. We believe that the function of ensuring consistency across the sectoral Councils should be performed by the GAC. We do not judge the distinction between the executive and legislative functions of the Council to be sufficient to support this institutional structure.

We believe that the Council should be free to decide on its remaining formations. The current treaties do not specify individual formations, and we believe that to limit the Council's work in the way proposed could lead to inflexibility.

We welcome the aim of the original article, but believe that it should be more specific and create a "team presidency" system for the chairs of all the Council formations except General and Foreign Affairs. It would spread the burden of chairmanship between member states, maintain equality through rotation, and provide longer term continuity. The team could be in place for up to 2 1/2 years.