

AMENDMENT FORM

Title B - Part II

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 30

By Members: Mr Andrew Duff, Mr Lamberto Dini, Mr Paul Helminger, Mr Dimitrij Rupel, Mr Peeter Kreitzberg, Mr Algirdas Gričius, Mr Puiu Hasotti, Mr Jelko Kacin, Mr Zekeriya Akçam and Mr Eugenijus Maldeikis; and Alternate Members: Ms Lone Dybkjaer, Mr Willem Van Eekelen, Lord MacLennan of Rogart, Mr Nesrin Uzun, Mr Marios Matsakis, Mrs Androula Vassiliou, Mr Istvan Szent-Ivanyi, Mr Péter Eckstein-Kovacs, Mr Ibrahim Ozal and Mr Gintautas Sivickas.
Status : Members and alternate members.

III. HUMANITARIAN AID

Article 30

1. The Union's operations in the field of humanitarian aid shall be conducted within the framework of the principles and objectives of the external action of the Union as set out in Article 1 of this Title. Such operations shall be intended to provide ad hoc assistance, relief and protection for people in third countries and victims of man-made and natural disasters, in order to meet the humanitarian needs resulting from these different situations. The Union's actions and those of the Member States shall complement and reinforce each other.
2. Humanitarian aid operations shall be conducted in compliance with the principles of international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of impartiality, *neutrality*, and non-discrimination.
3. The European Parliament and the Council, in accordance with the legislative procedure, shall adopt the necessary laws and framework laws defining the framework within which the Union's humanitarian aid operations shall be implemented.

4. The Union may conclude with third countries and competent international organisations any agreement helping to achieve the objectives referred to in Article 1. Such agreements shall

be negotiated and concluded pursuant to Article 33 of this Title.

The first subparagraph shall be without prejudice to Member States' competence to negotiate in international bodies and to conclude international agreements.

5. In order to establish a framework for joint contributions from young Europeans to the humanitarian actions of the Union, a European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps shall be set up. The European Parliament and the Council, in compliance with the legislative procedure, shall adopt a European law determining the rules and operation of the Corps.
6. The Commission may take any useful initiative to promote coordination between actions of the Union and those of the Member States, in order to enhance the efficiency and complementarity of Union and national humanitarian aid measures.
7. The Union shall ensure that its humanitarian operations are coordinated and consistent with those of international organisations and bodies, in particular those forming part of the United Nations System.

Explanation:

We have inserted in paragraph 2 the concept of neutrality which is a key element within the humanitarian policy. It is an essential complement to impartiality and non-discrimination.