

## AMENDMENT FORM

### Suggestion for amendment of Article 2

By: **Robert MacLennan**

Status : **Alternate**

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#### Article 2: The Union's values

**2.1** The Union is founded on *shared* values of *liberty*, human dignity, democracy, the rule of law and respect for *fundamental* rights. Its aim is a society at peace, *enriched by its cultural diversity, practising and promoting* tolerance, justice and solidarity.

**2.2** *The Union shall respect the identities of the Member States and the national and regional identities within them.*

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#### **Explanation :**

*2.1 The formulation of 'shared' rather than 'common' values is to indicate a positive commitment to the unity of Europe. 'Common' is a more passive concept.*

*Liberty takes priority in a list of values.*

*If we have 'human dignity' already we need the wider notion of 'fundamental' rights, which is also consistent with the Charter.*

*A reference to the value of European culture is surely desirable at this point, as is the idea of promoting by example what it is we as Europeans practice.*

*2.2 This clause is taken over from Article 1. 2. The addition of ‘ and the national and regional identities within them’ is proposed in the interests of pluralism and historical accuracy. There are many national identities within Europe.*

*Likewise we should include regional identities. The Constitution must cater for the emergence of a post-national democratic identity with flourishing regions and localities.*