

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 29 Common foreign and security policy

Suggestion for protocol :

By Mr : Esko Helle

Status : - Alternate

PART I – TITLE V

Article 29

The Union's common foreign and security policy

1. The European Union shall undertake to conduct a common foreign and security policy, based on the progressive development of mutual political solidarity among Member States, the progressive identification of questions of general interest and the achievement of an ever-increasing degree of convergence of Member States' actions.
2. The European Council shall identify the Union's strategic interests and determine the objectives of its common foreign and security policy. The Council of Ministers shall frame this policy in accordance with the arrangements in Part Two of the Constitution.
3. **(deleted)**
4. The common foreign and security policy shall be put into effect by the **(deleted) Member of the Commission to whose sphere of competence the Union's Common foreign and security policy belongs** and by the Member States, using national and Union resources.
5. Member States shall consult one another within the Council and the European Council on any foreign and security policy issue which is of general interest in order to determine a common approach. Before undertaking any action on the international scene or any commitment which could affect the Union's interests, each Member State shall consult the others within the Council or the European Council. Member States shall ensure, through the convergence of their actions, that the Union is able to assert its interests and values on the international scene. Member States shall show mutual solidarity.

6. The European Parliament shall be consulted on the main aspects and basic choices of the common foreign and security policy, and shall be kept informed of how it develops.
 7. Decisions relating to the common foreign and security policy shall be adopted by the European Council and the Council of Ministers unanimously, except in the cases referred to in Part Two of the Constitution. They shall act on a proposal from a Member State or from the **(deleted) Member of the Commission to whose sphere of competence the Union's Common foreign and security policy belongs,** alone or together with the Commission.
 8. The European Council may unanimously decide that the Council should act by a qualified majority in cases other than those referred to in Part Two of the Constitution
-

Explanation (if any) :

The Union should not have its own Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Member of the Commission to whose sphere of competence the Union's Common foreign policy belongs must not be called one.

The European Council's role has to be to identify the Union's strategic interests and to determine the overall objectives, not to make decisions in individual cases.