

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 29

Suggestion for protocol :

By Mr : Dick Roche

Status : - Member

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. The European Council and the Council of Ministers shall adopt the necessary decisions.
4. The common foreign and security policy shall be put into effect by the ~~Union's~~ **Union** Minister for Foreign Affairs and by the Member States, using ~~national and Union~~ **Union and national** resources **respectively**.
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~~ **advance** its ~~values interests~~ **values interests** and ~~values interests~~ 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 Union's Minister for Foreign Affairs, 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. **This provision shall not apply to decisions having military or defence implications.**

Explanation (if any) : The procedure outlined at subsection 8 should not apply to matters having military or defence implications in keeping with the general view within the Convention that unanimity should remain the rule in this area. It is more appropriate to refer to the Union advancing its values and then its interests at subsection 5. The change at subsection 4 ensures the text is consistent in the sequence of Union and national resources.

The term ‘Union Minister for Foreign Affairs’ should be used throughout.