

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 3:

By Elmar BROK, Jozsef SZAJER, Erwin TEUFEL, René VAN DER LINDEN, Frantisek KROUPA, Antonio TAJANI, Teresa ALMEIDA GARRETT, Peter ALTMAIER, Piia Noora KAUPPI, Göran LENNMARKER, Hanja MAIJ-WEGGEN, Reinhard RACK, Joachim WÜRMELING

on behalf of the EPP Convention Group

Status: Members and Alternates

Text of the Praesidium

Proposed Amendments

Article 3: The Union's objectives

1. The Union's aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples.
2. The Union shall work for a Europe of sustainable development based on balanced economic growth and social justice, with a free single market, and economic and monetary union, aiming at full employment and generating high levels of competitiveness and living standards. It shall promote economic and social cohesion, equality between women and men, and environmental and social protection, and shall develop scientific and technological advance including the discovery of space. It shall encourage solidarity between generations and between States, and equal opportunities for all.
3. The Union shall constitute an area of freedom, security and justice, in which its shared values are developed and the richness of its cultural diversity is respected.
4. In defending Europe's independence and interests,

Article 3: The Union's objectives

1. The Union's aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples.
2. The Union shall work ***within the framework of a social market economy*** for a Europe of sustainable development based on balanced ***and non-inflationary*** economic growth and social justice, ~~with~~ ***by*** a free single market and ***an*** economic and monetary union ***based on a stable currency and sound public finances. It shall aim*** ~~aiming at full~~ ***a high level of*** employment and generating high levels of competitiveness and living standards ***to meet the needs of the present generation with respect for the rights of future generations***, ~~It shall~~ promote economic and social cohesion ***and trans-border cooperation***, equality between women and men, and ***a high level of*** environmental and social protection, and shall develop scientific and technological advance ~~including the discovery of space~~. It shall encourage solidarity between generations and between States, and equal opportunities for all.

- the Union shall seek to advance its values in the wider world. It shall contribute to the sustainable development of the earth, solidarity and mutual respect among peoples, eradication of poverty and protection of children's rights, strict observance of internationally accepted legal commitments, and peace between States.
5. These objectives shall be pursued by appropriate means, depending on the extent to which the relevant competences are attributed to the Union by this Constitution.
3. The Union shall, *for the sake of its citizens*, constitute an area of freedom, security and justice, in which its shared values are developed and the richness of its cultural diversity is respected.
 4. *To assert its identity at the international scene and in defending Europe's independence and interests*, the Union shall seek to advance its values in the wider world *through a common external relations policy, in particular a common foreign and security policy based on solidarity and mutual loyalty*. It shall contribute to the sustainable development of the earth, solidarity and mutual respect among peoples, *free trade*, eradication of poverty and protection of children's rights, strict observance of internationally accepted legal commitments, and peace between States.
 5. These objectives shall be pursued by appropriate means, depending on the extent to which the relevant competences are attributed to the Union by this Constitution.

Explanation:

Para 2:

- *The current text omits (deliberately?) all objectives mentioned in Article 2 and 4 of the EC Treaty which relate to **the stability of the single currency**. Under the current *acquis*, these are even “primary objectives” within the context of Economic and Monetary Union – see Article 4(2) and (3) of the EC Treaty. It should be recalled that lack of inflation is the basis of an efficient social policy as it protects the salaries and savings of individuals from losing their value. Price stability is also a corner stone of the reputation and credibility of the single currency, which is still a quite young creation of European integration. It is therefore essential that the (primary) objectives of economic and monetary policy, which currently figure prominently in Part One of the EC Treaty under “Principles”, are given an equally prominent place in the Constitution of the Union. This should go hand in hand with a reference to the objective of **sound public finances**, as currently underlined by Article 4(3) of the EC Treaty.*
- *It is proposed not to change the current wording in Article 2 of the EC Treaty with regard to the employment objective, i.e. to keep the wording **“a high level of employment”**. To promise, in a constitutional text, full employment could very easily lead to disappointments and deep frustrations of the citizens. A more cautious approach would also be in line with the Charter of Fundamental Rights which, realistically, does not provide for an (illusionary) “right to an employment”, but only guarantees the “freedom to choose an occupation” and “to seek employment” (Article 15 Charter) as well as the*

“right of access to placement services” (Article 29 Charta).

Para 3:

- *It should be underlined that the area of freedom, justice and security should primarily serve the interests of the citizens.*

Para 4:

- *While paras 2 and 3 mention the policy instruments by which the respective objectives are meant to be achieved (internal market, economic and monetary union, area of freedom, justice and security), para 4 does not refer to such an instrument. We take the view that today more than ever, it is high time to make a common external relations policy, in particular the common foreign and security policy a constitutional obligation of the Union. Of course, this must go hand in hand with a corresponding strengthening of the provisions regarding the implementation of this policy; in particular by a single external representation of the Union by a European Minister for Foreign Affairs who is a member of the Commission, but receives a special legitimacy from the Council; and by qualified majority voting as a rule in external matters (with the particular exception of military matters).*