

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 3

By :

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Article 3 paragraph 4

4. In defending Europe's ~~independence~~ **security** and interests, 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.

Explanation: In constitutional law, the notion of « independence » is closely associated with the concept of statehood. Using this term for describing the Union can give rise to misunderstandings and unfounded doubts about the nature of the Union. The European Union is commonly regarded as a sui generis political entity, which is governed by the rules laid down in international treaties. The aim of the Convention is to make the EU more transparent, democratic and efficient, not to change the Union's nature. The new Constitution should make this clear by avoiding terminology, which is traditionally used in the context of states.