

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article I-43: Enhanced cooperation

By Mr Péter Balázs

Status : **X Member** **Alternate**

Article I-43: Enhanced cooperation

“1. Member States which wish to establish enhanced cooperation between themselves within the framework of the Union's non-exclusive competences may make use of its institutions and exercise those competences by applying the relevant provisions of the Constitution, subject to the limits and in accordance with the procedures laid down in this article and in Articles [...] to [...] of Part Three of the Constitution.

Enhanced cooperation shall aim to further the objectives of the Union, protect its interests and reinforce its integration process. Such cooperation shall be open to all Member States when it is being established and at any time, in accordance with Article [...] of Part Three of the Constitution.

2. Authorisation to proceed with enhanced cooperation shall be granted by the Council as a last resort, when it has been established within the Council that the objectives of such cooperation cannot be attained within a reasonable period by the Union as a whole, and provided that it brings together at least ~~one third~~ half of the Member States. The Council shall act in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article [...] of Part Three of the Constitution.

3. Only representatives of the Member States participating in enhanced cooperation shall take part in the adoption of acts adopted within the Council. All Member States may, however take part in the deliberations of the Council. Unanimity shall be constituted by the participating States only. A qualified majority shall be defined as a majority of the votes of the participating Member States, representing at least three fifths of the population of those States. Acts adopted in the framework of enhanced cooperation shall bind only participating Member States. They shall not be regarded as an *acquis* which has to be accepted by candidates for accession to the Union.”

Explanation (if any) :

The possibility of the enhanced cooperation is an efficient tool, which might promote the deepening of the European integration, however it should also strengthen the unity of the European Union. The participation of at least half of the Member States in any form of enhanced cooperation would advance the pursuit of compromise between the Member States and encourage an early joining of the Member States not taking part at the beginning of the given enhanced cooperation initiative.