

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 37: (Title VI: The democratic life of the Union, part I of the Constitution)

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Article 37: Status of churches and non-confessional organisations

1. The European Union respects and does not prejudice the status under national law of churches and religious associations or communities in the Member States.
 2. The European Union equally respects the status of philosophical and non-confessional organisations.
 3. The Union shall maintain **an open, transparent and** regular dialogue with these churches and organisations, recognising their identity and their specific contribution.
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Explanation:

We take a critical view as regards the need for a separate article in the Constitution concerning churches and non-confessional organisations. In our view, these could well be included in Article 34 paragraph 3, together with representative associations and civil society.

If, however, the Convention should choose to retain the provision, the dialogue envisaged in paragraph 3 should be based on the same principles as the dialogue in Article 34 paragraph 3.