

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 16

Suggestion for Part I

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Status : Member, alternate

Article 16bis: The Council of the European Union

1. The Council of the European Union shall comprise:

The European Council, and

The Council of Ministers

2. The Presidency of the Council of the European Union, except the Foreign Affairs Council, shall be held in turn by each Member State for a term of a six months in the order decided by the European Council acting unanimously. The rotation of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union shall cease after each new Member State has held at least one Presidency. Following the unanimous decision by the European Council to cease the one-Member-State Presidency, the Presidency shall be shared by three Member States for a term of a six months. The three Member States shall among themselves decide on the Presidency in each of the Council of Ministers formations.

Article ~~16~~ 16a: The European Council

- 1. The European Council shall provide the Union with the necessary impetus for its development, and shall define its general political directions and priorities.**
- 2. The European Council shall lay down strategic guidelines and take unanimous decisions on the Union's common foreign and security policy as well as its common security and defence policy. The European Council, deciding by qualified majority, with the agreement of the President of the Commission shall appoint the Foreign Minister of the**

European Union and shall mandate him or her to conduct the Union's common foreign and security policy as well as the Union's common security and defence policy.

- ~~2.3.~~ The European Council shall consist of the Heads of State or Government of the Member States, together with its ~~President~~ **Secretary General** and the President of the Commission. The Foreign Minister **of the European Union** shall take part in its work.
- ~~3.4.~~ The European Council shall meet quarterly, convened by its ~~President~~ **Secretary General**. When the agenda so requires, its members may decide to be assisted by a minister, and, in the case of the President of the Commission, a ~~Commissioner~~ **Member of the Commission**. When the situation so requires, the ~~President~~ **Secretary General** shall convene an additional meeting of the European Council.
5. The European Council may decide to create a ~~board~~ **Presidency Team** consisting of three of its members, ~~chosen according to a system of equitable rotation~~ **representing the preceding, the current and the next Presidency**.
- ~~4.6.~~ Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, decisions of the European Council shall be taken by consensus.

Explanation (if any) :