

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of: PART I OF THE CONSTITUTION, TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions, Article 16 : The European Council

By Ms / Mr : BROK; SANTER; STYLIANIDIS; TAJANI; AZEVEDO; BASILE; BREJC; CUSHNAHAN; DEMETRIOU; DOLORES; FOGLER; FREND; GIANNAKOU; KARINS ; KAUPPI; KELEMEN; KORHONEN; KRASTS; KROUPA; LENNMARKER; LIEPINA; MAIJ-WEGGEN; MLADENOV; PIKS; RACK; VAN DIJK; WITTBRODT; WÜRMELING; ZILE

Status : - Member - Alternate

Suggestion

TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions

Article 16 : The European Council

(THIS TEXT SHOULD BE INTEGRATED INTO NEW ART. 14 b)

1. The European Council shall provide the Union with the necessary impetus for its development, and shall define ~~it's *the* general political directions and priorities~~ *guidelines for this development*.
2. The European Council shall consist of the Heads of State or Government of the Member States, together with its President and the President of the Commission. The Foreign Minister shall take part in its work.
3. The European Council shall meet ~~quarterly~~ *at least twice a year*, convened by its ~~President~~ *Chair*. 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. When the situation so requires, the ~~President~~ *Chair* shall convene an additional meeting of the European Council.
4. *The Chair of the European Council shall be held in turn by each member state for a term of x months. The Council may decide unanimously on a longer term.*
- 4.5. Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, decisions of the European Council shall be taken by consensus.

Explanation (if any) :

The political directions and priorities could be misunderstood as going too far already into legislative matters which should be exclusively dedicated to the Council. It would therefore make sense to use the old wording of Art. 4 of the Union Treaty.

The term ‘Chair of the European Council’ seems to be more appropriate than ‘president’ in view of the manifold resistance against the idea of a “European President”. Moreover it is preferable, that the current rotating system is kept, probably with a longer term.