

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of TArt16liepina.doc

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Status: - Member: L.Liepina; R.Piks
- Alternate: A.K.Karins; G.Krasts

Article 16 : 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 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~~ **External Representative of the European Union** shall take part in its work.
3. The European Council shall meet quarterly, convened by **the Chair. Members shall be assisted by Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States and by another appropriate Minister** as ~~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 Chair** shall convene an additional meeting of the European Council.
4. **Meetings of the European Council shall be chaired by the Head of State or Government of the Member State, which holds the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.**
5. Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, decisions of the European Council shall be taken by ~~consensus~~ **unanimity**.

Explanation (if any) :

As we do not support the creation of the post of the European Council's President, we consider it is necessary to include in the Article that the European Council is chaired by the Head of State or Government of the Member State holding the Presidency.