

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : Art. 16

Suggestion for protocol :

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Status : - Members and Alternates

Article 15: 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. **They shall be assisted by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs or – when the agenda so requires – any other minister and, in the case of the President of the Commission, another member of the Commission.** When the agenda so requires, the Foreign Minister of the Union shall take part in its work.
3. The European Council shall meet quarterly, as a rule, **convened by and under the chairmanship of the Head of State or Government of the Member state which holds the Presidency of the Council in its General Affairs configuration** ~~the its President. When the agenda so requires, 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 shall convene~~ an additional meeting of the European Council **shall be convened by the Presidency.**
4. ~~Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, decisions of the European Council shall be taken by consensus.~~ **Except where the Constitutional Treaty provides otherwise, decisions of the European Council shall be taken by unanimity. When the European Council takes decisions by qualified majority, the votes of the members shall be weighted as set out in article Y of Part Two¹. The President of the Commission does not vote within the**

¹ Figures for a Union of 25 as stated in the Treaty of Nice and in the Treaty of accession – see below footnote n°..

European Council.

The European Council shall submit to the European Parliament a report after each of its meetings and yearly written report on the progress achieved by the Union.

Explanation (if any) :