

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of : Article 17

By: Robert Maclellan, Andrew Duff, Lone Dybkjaer

Status : Alternate

Article 17: The Council of Ministers

1. The Council of Ministers shall, jointly with the European Parliament, enact legislation, and shall carry out policy-making and co-ordinating functions, as laid down in the Constitution.
 2. The Council of Ministers shall consist of a representative of each Member State at ministerial Level, ***authorised to commit the government of that Member State***, for each of its formations. Only this representative may commit the Member State in question, and cast its vote.
 3. Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, decisions of the Council shall be taken by qualified majority.
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Explanation :

The representation of sub-national regional and local authorities in the Council of Ministers, when the subject-matter falls within their spheres of competence, must be provided for. At the very least, the present formulation found in Article 203 TEC should be incorporated in the Union's Constitution.