

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 17a

By Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallén and Mr Sven-Olof Petersson, government representatives, and Mr Sören Lekberg, Mr Göran Lenmarker, Mr Kenneth Kvist and Mr Ingvar Svensson, national parliament representatives.

Status : - Member: Hjelm-Wallén, Lekberg and Lenmarker
 - Alternate: Petersson, Kvist and Svensson

Article 17a : Council formations¹

1. ~~The General Affairs Council shall ensure consistency in the work of the Council of Ministers. [With the participation of the Commission,] it shall prepare meetings of the European Council.~~
2. ~~The Legislative Council shall consider and, jointly with the European Parliament, enact European laws and European framework laws, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Each Member State's ministerial representative may be assisted by one or, if necessary, two specialist ministers, reflecting the business on the Council agenda.~~
3. ~~The Foreign Affairs Council shall, on the basis of strategic guidelines laid down by the European Council, flesh out the Union's external policies, and ensure that its actions are consistent. It shall be chaired by the Union's Foreign Minister.~~
4. ~~The Council shall also meet in the configuration of an Economic and Financial Affairs Council, and a Council on Justice and Security.~~
5. ~~The Council, in its General Affairs formation, may decide on further formations.~~
6. ~~The European Council may decide by consensus that the Presidency of the Council formations, other than that of Foreign Affairs, should be undertaken by a Member State for a period of at least a year, taking into account European political and geographical balance and the diversity of all Member States.~~

¹ The formations should be regulated in the Council's Rules of Procedure. A specification in the Treaty would entail loss of flexibility. A specific formation of the Council for meetings concerning legislative matters is neither practical nor does it hold a function that motivates such far reaching measures.