

AMENDMENT FORM

PART I, TITLE IV: THE UNION'S INSTITUTIONS - REVISED TEXT

Suggestion for amendment of Article I-31: The Union's Advisory Bodies

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New article:

Article I-31: The Union's Advisory Bodies The Committee of the Regions

1. The European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and the Commission shall be assisted by a Committee of the Regions in order to guarantee that the local, regional and territorial dimension as well as the diversity of the cultures and traditions of the people of Europe are taken into account in the elaboration, the establishment and the evaluation of Union policies. It also contributes in the control of the application of the respect of the principles of subsidiarity, proximity and proportionality.
2. The Committee of the Regions shall consist of representatives of regional and local bodies who hold a regional or local authority mandate or are politically accountable to an elected assembly. The members of the Committee of the Regions must not be bound by any mandatory instructions. They shall be completely independent, in the performance of their duties, in the Union's general interest.
3. The Committee of the Regions shall be consulted by the European Parliament, by the Council or by the Commission in the areas referred to in Articles I-13, I-14 and I-16 and under the conditions provided in Part III.
4. The Committee of the Regions may be consulted by the European Parliament, by the Council or by the Commission in all other cases in particular those which concern cross border cooperation, where one of these ~~two~~ three institutions considers it appropriate.
5. The Committee of the Regions may issue an opinion on its own initiative in cases where it considers such actions appropriate.
6. Rules governing the composition of this Committee, the designation of its members, its powers and its operations, are set out in Articles ~~268, 269, 270~~ III 288 to III 290 of Part ~~H-III~~ of the Constitution. The rules governing its composition shall be reviewed at regular intervals by the Council, on the basis of a Commission proposal following the opinion of the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions in the light of ~~economic, social and~~ demographic developments within the Union.