

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 5 (2)

By Mr : SÖDERMAN

Status : Observer

The Union may accede to ~~the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms~~ **international agreements for the protection and promotion of human rights**. Accession to ~~that Convention~~ shall not affect the Union's competences as defined by this Constitution.

Explanation (if any) :

The possibility for the Union to accede to the ECHR is greatly to be welcomed. As currently drafted, however, this Article would prevent the Union from acceding to international human rights agreements developed by, for example, the United Nations and the ILO. Nor could the Union accede to other Council of Europe conventions.

The question of whether the Union should accede to international human rights agreements is a matter of policy. The Constitution should leave the matter open, to be debated on a case-by-case basis, as is the situation in the Member States.