

## AMENDMENT FORM

**Suggestion for amendment of Article : Part I - Title V**

**Suggestion for protocol :**

**By: Teija Tiilikainen, Antti Peltomäki, Kimmo Kiljunen, Matti Vanhanen, Riitta Korhonen**

**Status : Tiilikainen, Kiljunen, Vanhanen - Members  
Peltomäki, Korhonen - Alternates**

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**Explanation (if any) :**

General comments:

1. Our proposals are based on the assumption that the role of the Foreign Minister will be defined in this Constitution according to the following criteria:

- The Minister performs the tasks of the Commissioner for External Relations and the High Representative.
- The Minister is nominated by a common agreement between the President of the Commission and the European Council. The dismissal of the Minister shall be stated separately.
- The Minister is a member of the Commission with the status of a Vice President.
- There should be a clear distinction between his/her competences in the current Community matters and CFSP/CESDP matters respectively:

- In the current Community matters the Minister would exercise his competences as a Member of the College of the Commission. The procedures under the current Community method would be followed.
- In CFSP and CESDP matters the Minister would operate under the authority of the Council. However, he/she shall have an independent right of initiative along with the Commission and the Member States. The Minister shall be primarily responsible for the implementation of CFSP and CESDP decisions. A joint service (European External Action Service) composed of DG Relex officials, Council Secretariat officials and staff seconded from

Member States' diplomatic services shall work under the Minister's authority (as recommended by WG VII). The Minister shall represent the Union in CFSP and CESDP matters. He/she shall negotiate international agreements on matters falling exclusively or mainly under CFSP and/or CESDP.

- The Council formation responsible for the Union's external action shall continue to be chaired by the rotating presidency.

2. The European Council should not become an operational institution. Also in the field of CFSP it should concentrate on defining the Union's strategic interests and general political guidelines.

3. In this context we draw attention to the fact that the Presidium has not presented any draft text on enhanced cooperation. The Draft Constitutional Treaty (CONV 369/02) contained a reference to such provisions.