

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article: 68 (ex 99)

By Mr Hain

Status : - Member

1. *OK*

2. *OK*

3. *OK.*

4. Where it is established, under the procedure referred to in paragraph 3, that the economic policies of a Member State are not consistent with the broad guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 or that they risk jeopardising the proper functioning of economic and monetary union the Council may, acting on a recommendation from the Commission, make the necessary recommendations to the Member State concerned. The Council may, acting on a proposal from the Commission, decide to make its recommendations public.

~~Within the scope of this paragraph, the Council shall act without taking into account the vote of the representative of the Member State concerned, and a qualified majority shall be defined as the majority of the votes of the other Member States, representing at least three fifths of their populations.~~

5. *OK.*

6. ~~A European law or framework law may lay down detailed rules for the multilateral surveillance procedure referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4. The Council, on a proposal from the Commission, may adopt a European law or framework law on detailed rules for the multilateral surveillance procedure referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4. It shall act after consulting the European Parliament.~~

Explanation (if any) :

68.4

The Praesidium draft would disturb the existing institutional balance on the Broad Economic Policy Guidelines. It would particularly be a problem to exclude the Member State concerned. Given that Member States are responsible for implementing recommendations, they need to own the recommendations. There is no consensus in the Convention to change this article. The Economic Governance working group was divided on this issue (with “some” supporting and “others” opposing).

68.6

This article is a sensitive political area. Economic policy is a matter for Member States, within a framework of rules agreed within the Union. Introducing codecision on the BEPGs would disturb the existing institutional balance. The Working Group on Economic Governance considered that “the European Parliament should be consulted on the BEPGs” – if the group had considered more than consultation to be necessary, it would have proposed moving the article to codecision.