

AMENDMENT FORM

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Suggestion for amendment of Article III-98

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Status : - Member

Article III-98 (ex Article 136)

The Union and the Member States, having in mind fundamental social rights such as those set out in the European Social Charter signed at Turin on 18 October 1961 and in the 1989 Community Charter of the Fundamental Social Rights of Workers, **and the principles of the European social model**, shall have as their objectives the promotion of employment, improved living and working conditions, so as to make possible their harmonisation while the improvement is being maintained, proper social protection, dialogue between management and labour, the development of human resources with a view to lasting high employment and the combating of exclusion.

To this end the Union and the Member States shall act taking account of the diverse forms of national practices, in particular in the field of contractual relations, **and social protection schemes**, and the need to maintain the competitiveness of the Union economy.

They believe that such a development will ensue not only from the functioning of the internal market, which will favour the harmonisation of social systems, but also from the procedures provided for in the Constitution and from the approximation of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action.

Explanation (if any) :

The special status of social protection schemes and the often cited European social model should be made clear in this chapter. This could help to avoid misunderstandings when the balance between these schemes and other fundamental principles of the Constitution is at stake.