

## AMENDMENT FORM

### Suggestion for amendment to PART TWO, Title B, Article 2

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Status : - Member

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#### *Article 2*

1. On the basis of the principles and objectives referred to in Article 1 of this Title, the European Council shall identify the strategic interests and objectives of the Union.

The European Council **shall adopt decisions general guidelines** on the strategic interests and objectives of the Union **which** may relate to foreign policy and to other areas of the external action of the Union. Such ~~decisions~~ **general guidelines** may concern the relations of the Union with a specific country or region or may be thematic in approach. They shall define their duration, and the means to be made available by the Union and the Member States.

**Foreign and security policy objectives of a measure do not affect its adoption in the framework of other Union policies. By way of derogation, economic sanctions have to be adopted on the grounds of a common foreign and security measure.**

When adopting the general guidelines the European Council shall act unanimously on a ~~proposal~~ **recommendation** from the Council. The Council **recommendation** ~~proposal~~ shall be adopted by the Council by a qualified majority **on the basis of a joint proposal of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Commission** ~~recommendations by the Minister for Foreign Affairs (for matters relating to the common foreign and security policy), by the Commission (for other areas of external action), or by both together.~~ The decisions of the ~~European Council shall be implemented by the Council in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Constitution.~~

2. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, for the field of common foreign and security policy, and the Commission, for other fields of external action, may submit joint proposals to the Council **covering both common foreign and security policy and other aspects of external action. Such joint proposals shall be without prejudice to the sole competence of the Commission to submit proposals as defined in other provisions of Part II of the Constitution.** The Council shall adopt decisions on such joint proposals by qualified majority.

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Explanation (if any) :

“Decisions” of the European Council should be replaced by “general guidelines”. This is more consistent with the overall role of the European Council (see draft Article 16 “The European Council shall provide the Union with the necessary impetus for its development and shall define its general political directions and priorities”). Furthermore “guidelines” of the European Council are also provided for in the draft articles on the area of freedom, security and justice, which is like “external action” another interpillar policy area (see Article 2 : [Role of the European Council] The European Council shall define the guidelines for legislative and operational action within the area of freedom, security and justice).