

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : Article 8

Suggestion for protocol :

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

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

Article 8

1. Any Member State, the Commission or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, ~~acting alone or together with the Commission,~~ may refer to the Council any question relating to the common foreign and security policy and may submit proposals to the Council.
 2. In cases requiring a rapid decision, the Presidency, of its own motion, or at the request of the Commission or a Member State or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, ~~of the Minister's own motion, or at the request of a Member State,~~ shall convene an extraordinary Council meeting within forty-eight hours or, in an emergency, within a shorter period.
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Explanation (if any) :

Explanation 8(1): The Union's Minister for Foreign Affairs shall have an independent right of initiative in CFSP matters along with the Commission and the Member States. See our general comment under Part I - Title V.

Explanation 8(2): The Minister for Foreign Affairs should not be granted a right to convene an extraordinary Council meeting. This task belongs to the rotating Presidency of the Council.

However, the Minister for Foreign Affairs along with the Commission and the Member States could present a request to the Presidency on convening such a meeting.