

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article: III-208 (ex Article 20)

By Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallén and Mr Sven-Olof Petersson, government representatives and Mr Sören Lekberg, national parliament representative.

Status : - Member: Hjelm-Wallén and Lekberg

- Alternate: Petersson

1. ~~The Member States listed in Protocol X annexed to the Constitution, which fulfil high military capability criteria and wish to enter into more binding commitments in this matter with a view to more demanding tasks, hereby establish structured cooperation between themselves within the meaning of Article I 40(6). The military capability criteria and commitments which those Member States have defined are set out in that Protocol.~~
2. ~~If a Member State wishes to participate in such cooperation at a later stage, and thus subscribe to the obligations it imposes, it shall inform the European Council of its intention. The Council shall deliberate at the request of the Member States in question but only the Member States taking part in structured cooperation shall decide on the request.~~
3. ~~Only Member States taking part in such cooperation shall adopt decisions relating to matters covered by it. The Minister for Foreign Affairs shall attend the deliberations. Other Member States shall be duly and regularly informed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of developments in cooperation.~~
4. ~~The Council may ask the Member States participating in such cooperation to carry out at Union level a task referred to in [Article III 205 (ex Art.17)].¹~~

¹ Allowing for *flexible integration* in the ESDP area, including the creation of “restricted Councils” and other restricted EU bodies, may create divisions within this field. It is also a very doubtful solution to make arrangements for a group of Member States to carry out operations using the Unions' structures without a decision taken by the Member States.

Flexible integration may easily hamper the development of the Union's crisis management capacity, rather than encourage such a development. *Flexible implementation* of ESDP activities can be handled within today's existing provisions, and is furthermore being addressed in the proposed new article 30(5). The established working methods for capability development which have proven to be efficient, such as those developed for instance within the ECAP process, can serve as a point of departure for deepened and intensified cooperation.