

## AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 20

Suggestion for PART TWO – CHAPTER 1: COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY

POLICY , B. The common security and defence policy

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on behalf of the EPP Convention Group

Status : - Member - Alternate

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### CHAPTER 1: COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY

B. The common security and defence policy

#### Article 20

1. The Member States listed in Declaration 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~~ *They may, after a proposal of one of them and after informing the European Parliament and a decision of the Council by qualified majority*, establish structured cooperation between themselves within the meaning of Article 30(6) of Part One of the Constitution. The military capability criteria and commitments which those Member States have defined are set out in that Declaration.
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 restricted Council on structured cooperation shall decide on the Member State's 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 17 of this Title.
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**Explanation (if any) :**

It is very important that the Constitution promotes better flexibility also in security and defence policy. Given the specificities of the defence sector the old Art. 27 b and c of the EU-Treaty can not simply be used as such. However, a certain degree of procedure is necessary for establishing structured cooperation in the framework of the Union. The amendment proposes that this could be done on the recommendation of the Foreign Minister and by a Council decision with qualified majority. This would also contribute to transparency and trust among the member states.