

AMENDMENT FORM

Title B - Part II

Suggestion for amendment of Article 33

By Mr. Adrian Severin

Status : Alternate Member.

The paragraph 4 should be replaced by the following one:

- 4. The Commission shall conduct the negotiations, except where the agreements refer to the common foreign and security policy. The Union's Minister for Foreign Affairs shall conduct the negotiations where the agreements refer to the common foreign and security policy.**

In the paragraph 7 the first part of the second sentence should be deleted:

7. The Council shall conclude agreements on the proposal of the agreement negotiator. **[Delete]** The Council shall not conclude any agreement until the European Parliament has been consulted. The Parliament shall deliver its opinion within a time-limit which the Council may lay down according to the urgency of the matter. In the absence of an opinion within that time-limit, the Council may act. However, the European Parliament's assent shall be required for association agreements, accession to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and for agreements establishing a specific institutional framework by organising cooperation procedures, agreements with important budgetary implications for the Union, and agreements covering fields to which the legislative procedure applies. The Council and the European Parliament may, in an urgent situation, agree upon a time-limit for the assent.
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Explanation:

- 1. As a general rule, the Commission should be the negotiator of the Union, except in the area of CFSP, where it should be the Union's Minister for Foreign Affairs.*
- 2. The EP should be consulted in the CFSP agreements, too. There is no reason to introduce an exception where agreements refer to the common foreign and security policy.*