

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : III-306.8 (ex Article 272)

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

**Status : - Members: Hjelm-Wallén and Lekberg
- Alternates: Petersson**

8. If, within twenty-one days, the Conciliation Committee does not approve a joint text, **expenditure for each budget line on which there is no agreement shall be determined at the lower of the Council's or the European Parliament's final conciliation position, or at the levels included in the previous year's budget if these are higher and within the budget ceilings of the financial framework for the current year. The levels provided for by this arrangement apply until the Council and the European Parliament have reached an agreement on a new budget.** ~~or if the Council rejects the joint text, the Parliament may, within fourteen days, acting by a majority of its component members and three fifths of the votes cast, confirm its amendments. Where the Parliament amendment is not confirmed, the Council position on the budget item which is the subject of the amendment shall be deemed to be adopted.~~

~~However, if the Parliament, acting by a majority of its component members and three fifths of the votes cast, rejects the joint text, it may ask for a new draft to be submitted.~~

Explanation: In order to maintain institutional balance, and provide for long-term stability and budget discipline, we prefer the second option in the report from the Discussion Circle on budgetary matters, as described above. The current proposal from the Praesidium would in practice give the European Parliament the final word on the whole budget, which would disturb the institutional balance compared with today's system.