

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of: **PART THREE: GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

Article F: Procedure for revising the Constitutional Treaty

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on behalf of the EPP Convention Group

Status: Members and Alternates

Text of the Praesidium

Proposed Amendments

Article F: Procedure for revising the Constitutional Treaty

The government of any Member State or the Commission may submit to the Council proposals for the amendment of the Constitutional Treaty. The national Parliaments shall be notified of these proposals.

If the Council, after consulting the European Parliament and, where appropriate, the Commission, delivers an opinion in favour of calling a conference of representatives of the governments of the Member States, the conference shall be convened by the President of the Council for the purpose of determining by common accord the amendments to be made to the Constitutional Treaty. The Council of the European Central Bank shall also be consulted in the case of institutional changes in the monetary area.

The amendments shall enter into force after being ratified by all the Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements.

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(1) The government of any Member State, the European Parliament and the Commission may submit to the Council proposals for the amendment of the Constitution.

(2) The amendment of the Constitution shall be prepared by a Constitutional Convention which shall be convened by the Council after consulting the Euro-

pean Parliament and the Commission, and which shall within one year draw up a final document containing a detailed draft text.

The Constitutional Convention shall be composed of:

- *a Convention Chairman appointed by the Council with the approval of the European Parliament;*
- *a representative delegated by the government of each Member State;*
- *two representatives delegated by the national parliaments of each Member State;*
- *a number of representatives of the European Parliament equal to the total number of representatives of national parliaments;*
- *four members of the European Commission.*

In the case of institutional changes in the monetary area, one delegate of the ECB shall also participate in the Constitutional Convention.

The President of the European Court of Justice, the President of the European Court of Auditors, the President of the Committee of the Regions, the President of the Economic and Social Committee and the Ombudsman may each delegate one observer to the Constitutional Convention.

(3) The constitutional amendment adopted by the Constitutional Convention must be confirmed by a conference of representatives of the governments of the Member States. This conference shall be convened by the President of the Council immediately subsequent to the Convention.

(4) The constitutional amendment shall enter into force after having been assented by the European Parliament and being ratified, in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements, by 4/5 of Member States.

Explanation:

The Convention method should be the general mechanism for Constitution changes in the future in order to allow broader public debates and improve the opportunities for finding a consensus. With 25 or more Member States this will be even more important.

Concerning the composition of the Convention, the current model is taken over. Currently, where the Union has 15 Member States, the European Parliament is allowed to send 30 members to the Convention.

Concerning the entry into force, it could also be envisaged that a majority of Member States representing $\frac{4}{5}$ of the population would be the threshold.
