

DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the call for a Convention for the revision of the Treaties

Gabriele Bischoff,
on behalf of the S&D Group

Guy Verhofstadt,
on behalf of the Renew Group

Daniel Freund,
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Helmut Scholz,
on behalf of the Left Group

The European Parliament

- Having regard to Article 48 of the Treaty on the European Union,
- Having regard to the report on the final outcome of the Conference on the Future of Europe as presented on 9 May 2022;
- Having regard to its resolution of 4 May 2022 on the follow-up to the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe,
- Having regard to its resolution of 16 February 2017 on possible evolutions of and adjustments to the current institutional set-up of the European Union and of 13 February 2019 on the state of the debate on the future of Europe,

A. Whereas the current Treaties entered into force on 1 December 2009 and the European Union has faced several crises and unprecedented challenges since;

B. Whereas the Conference on the Future of Europe has concluded its work on 9 May 2022 and presented its conclusions, which contains 49 proposals and 326 measures;

C. Whereas in addition to legislative proposals, the opening of a process of institutional reforms is needed in order to implement the recommendations and expectations of the citizens' participation process;

D. Whereas new policies and, in some cases, Treaty changes, are necessary not as means in themselves, but in the interests of all Europeans, by aiming to reshape the EU in a way that will enhance the European Union's capacity to act as well as its democratic legitimacy and accountability;

1. Welcomes the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe on 9 May 2022;
2. Points out that, in line with the founding text of the Conference, the three Institutions have committed to follow up effectively on the conclusions, each within the framework of their competences and in accordance with the Treaties;

3. Notes that several of the Conference proposals require Treaty changes, and that its Committee on Constitutional Affairs shall prepare proposals for treaty changes accordingly;

4. Points out especially, following the most recent crises to change the Treaties urgently in order for the Union to be capable to act more effectively in future crises;

5. Submits for that reason to the Council under the ordinary procedure of Article 48 TEU the following proposals for the amendment of the Treaties, inter alia:

- to enhance the Union's capacity to act by reforming voting procedures, including changing unanimity decision to qualified majority voting in relevant areas, such as sanctions, the so-called passerelle clause and in case of emergency;
- to adapt the competences conferred on the Union in the Treaties especially in the areas of health, energy, defence, and social and economic policies; the latter to support strengthening the competitiveness and resilience of the EU's economy, with special attention for SMEs and a competitiveness check; the full implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights; a social progress protocol; and promoting future-oriented investments focused on the just, green and digital transitions;
- to provide the Parliament with full co-decision rights on the Budget, and with the right to initiate, amend or revoke legislation;
- to strengthen the procedure for the protection of the Values the EU is founded on and to clarify the determination and consequences of breaches of fundamental values (art. 7 TEU and the Charter of Fundamental Rights) ;
- to introduce provisions enabling the enhancement of common security and defence policies in Articles 42-46 TEU, in particular the joint procurement of defence equipment,
- to strengthen the principle of conferral and the principle of subsidiarity in Article 4 and 5 TEU, where necessary.

6. Proposes more precisely that the following articles will be changed as follows:

Article 29 TEU:

The Council shall adopt decisions which shall define the approach of the Union to a particular matter of a geographical or thematic nature. ***Where a decision, provides for the interruption or reduction, in part or completely, of economic and financial relations with one or more third countries, the Council shall act by qualified majority.*** Member States shall ensure that their national policies conform to the Union positions;

Article 48(7) TEU last paragraph:

For the adoption of ***these*** decisions, the European Council shall act by ***qualified majority vote according to the procedure laid down in Article 238(3)(b)*** after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament, which shall be given by a majority of its component members.

Article 4 TFEU – paragraph 2(k):

(k) public health matters, ***and the protection and improvement of human health, especially cross-border health threats***

Article 9 TFEU:

In defining and implementing its policies and activities, ***the Union shall implement social progress, as anchored in a Social Progress Protocol to ensure that social rights are protected and safeguarded.***

The Union shall take into account requirements linked to the promotion of a high level of employment, the guarantee of adequate social protection, the fight against social exclusion, and a high level of education, training and protection of human health.

Article 194 TFEU

1. In the context of the establishment and functioning of the internal market and with regard for the need to preserve and improve the environment, ***the common energy policy of the Union*** shall aim, in a spirit of solidarity between Member States, to:

(a) ensure the functioning of the energy market;

(b) ensure security of energy supply in the Union;

(c) ***ensure*** energy efficiency and energy saving and the development of new and renewable forms of energy ***in order to achieve an energy system based on energy efficiency and renewable energies***; and

(d) promote the interconnection of energy networks,

(e) to design the overall energy system in line with international agreements to mitigate climate change.

2. Without prejudice to the application of other provisions of the Treaties, the European Parliament and the Council, acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, shall establish the measures necessary to achieve the objectives in paragraph 1. Such measures shall be adopted after consultation of the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

Where such measures ***may*** affect a Member State's ***determination of*** the conditions for exploiting its energy resources, its choice between different energy sources and the general structure of its energy supply, ***the European Parliament shall act by a majority of component Members and the Council shall act by qualified majority.***

7. Calls upon the Council to submit these proposals directly to the European Council for its examination, in order to convene a Convention composed of representatives of the national parliaments, of the Heads of State or Government of the Member States, of the European Parliament and of the Commission;

8. Believes representatives of the social partners, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, the European civil society as well as from candidate countries should be invited as observers to the Convention;

9. Instructs its President to transmit this resolution to the Council and to forward it to the Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.

