

## **Draft Report on proposals for the amendment of the Treaties**

- 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 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference on the Future of Europe ('the Conference'), as approved by the Executive Board and published on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference,
- Having regard to the conclusions of the nine thematic working groups of the Conference, as endorsed on 30 April 2022 by the Conference Plenary,
- Having regard to the activity report of the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe, published in February 2022,
- Having regard to the Contributions per Member State on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference on the Future of Europe, published in February 2022,
- Having regard to the reports of the National Citizens' Panels and the national events, as published on the Multilingual Digital Platform of the Conference,
- Having regard to the Youth Ideas report for the Conference on the Future of Europe, published as a result of the European Youth Event of 8 and 9 October 2021,
- Having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 1 'A stronger economy, social justice and jobs / Education, culture, youth and sport / Digital transformation',
- Having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 2 'European democracy / Values and rights, rule of law, security',
- Having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 3 'Climate change, environment / Health',
- Having regard to the recommendations of European Citizens' Panel 4 'EU in the world / Migration',
- Having regard to its resolution of 15 January 2020 on the European Parliament's position on the Conference on the Future of Europe<sup>1</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 270, 7.7.2021, p. 71.

- 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<sup>2</sup> and of 13 February 2019 on the state of the debate on the future of Europe<sup>3</sup>,
  - Having regard to Rule 85 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - Whereas the current Treaties entered into force on 1 December 2009 and the European Union has faced several crises since then;
  - 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;
  - whereas the Conference was a joint undertaking of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission, acting as equal partners together with the Member States of the European Union;
  - whereas the European Parliament has fully committed to the Conference, firmly believing that the EU needs to be reformed in order to be able to tackle not only the current, but also future, challenges;
  - whereas the proposals emerging from citizens' participation, which formed the basis of the final Conference conclusions, request that the European Union become more democratic, secure, effective, prosperous, fairer, sustainable, more capable of acting and a more influential actor in the world;
  - whereas the EU should be equipped with sufficient and appropriate means to achieve the above-mentioned goals, which highlights once more the need to improve the way the Institutions function;
  - 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;
  - 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 guarantee its open strategic autonomy, security, sustainability and competitiveness, the improvement of living and working conditions, and respect for the rule of law and fundamental rights;
  - whereas the Conference has shown, once again, that any reform of the Union demands the full engagement of Parliament, the Commission, the Council and relevant stakeholders, as well as direct engagement with citizens;
1. Welcomes the conclusions of the Conference as presented to the Presidents of the 3 Institutions on 9 May 2022, and expresses its satisfaction with the ambitious and

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<sup>2</sup> OJ C 252, 18.7.2018, p. 201.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 449, 23.12.2020, p.90.

constructive 49 proposals and 326 measures formulated by the Conference, based on the recommendations and ideas emerging from the European and national Citizens' Panels, the European Youth Event and from the online platform;

2. welcomes the fact that the conclusions of the Conference were drafted in a citizen-driven process and stresses the importance of citizens' participation in European democracy;
3. Highlights the inclusiveness of the Conference with representatives from the European Parliament, the Council, the European Commission, national parliaments, citizens, Committee of the Regions, the Economic and Social Committee, regional and local authorities, social partners and civil society;
4. Points out that, in line with the founding text of the Conference, the 3 Institutions have committed to follow up effectively on the conclusions, each within the framework of their competences and in accordance with the Treaties;
5. Notes that several of the Conference proposals require Treaty changes, inter alia, concerning the simplification of the EU institutional architecture, more transparency and accountability in the decision-making process and a new reflection on EU competences;
6. Submits, therefore, the following proposals to amend the Treaties;
  - Amending Article 4 TFEU to include health and healthcare among the shared competencies between the EU and the EU Member States,
  - Amending Article 6 TFEU to introduce shared competences in the field of education, at a minimum in the field of citizenship education, whereby the exercise of that competence by the EU shall not result in Member States being prevented from exercising theirs,
  - Amending Articles 192 and 194 TFEU to allow for a genuine Energy Union in order to ensure energy autonomy for the Union,
  - Changing unanimity decision making to qualified majority voting in the Council with the exception of the admission of new membership to the EU and changes to the fundamental principles of the EU as stated in Article 2 TEU and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, by amending Article 7, 24 and 48(7) TEU, as well as Articles 113, 115, 153, 155, 223, 292, 329, 330, 333 and 353 TFEU; additionally an emergency clause should be introduced whereby the Council by QMV and the Parliament can empower the Commission to act with extraordinary competences and to mobilise all necessary instruments in case of major crises in fields such as security and defence, health or climate,
  - Providing the European Parliament with full co-decision rights on the Budget, including on the revenues, by amending Article 311 & 322 TFEU,
  - Providing the European Parliament a genuine legislative right of initiative by amending Article 225 TFEU,

- Introducing a EU-wide referendum, to be triggered by the European Parliament, in exceptional cases on matters particularly important to all European citizens,
  - Introducing a Social Progress Protocol in the Treaties to ensure that social rights are fully protected and safeguarded in case of conflict with economic freedoms,
  - Introducing a European citizenship statute providing citizen-specific rights and freedoms, which would make the European values and rights more tangible for EU citizens,
  - The Treaties should be amended to create an associate membership, as already envisaged by the founding fathers of the Union, that would allow democratic European nations that adhere to our core values to find a new space for political cooperation, security, energy cooperation, transport, investment, infrastructure and movement of people;
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. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States;