## **European Parliament**

2019-2024



#### Committee on Petitions

2022/2051(INL)

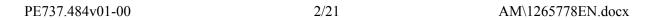
26.10.2022

## AMENDMENTS 1 - 39

**Draft opinion Angel Dzhambazki** (PE736.466v01-00)

Proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties (2022/2051(INL))

AM\1265778EN.docx PE737.484v01-00



## Amendment 1 Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Ibán García Del Blanco, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Nora Mebarek

## Draft opinion Paragraph 1

### Draft opinion

1. Welcomes the original idea behind the Conference on the Future of Europe as regards citizens' information and participation in democracy at Union level, aiming at making the Union more understandable and accessible;

#### Amendment

Expresses its satisfaction that the Conference on the Future of Europe was a very successful participatory exercise and therefore, it further enlarged the citizens' information and participation in democracy at Union level, aiming at making the Union more understandable and accessible; Considers that the Conference has led to innovative and successful participation by European citizens and has provided an additional opportunity for the European institutions, leading to a comprehensive dialogue between citizens, national parliaments, regional and local authorities, social partners and civil society organisations on the future of the Union;

Or. en

## Amendment 2 Alviina Alametsä

## Draft opinion Paragraph 1

#### Draft opinion

1. Welcomes the *original idea behind* the Conference on the Future of Europe *as regards* citizens' information and participation in democracy at Union level, aiming at making the Union more understandable and accessible:

#### Amendment

1. Welcomes the *proposals made by*the plenary of the Conference on the
Future of Europe, especially as they regard
increasing transparency, upholding
fundamental rights and citizens'
information and participation in democracy
at Union level, aiming at making the Union
more understandable and accessible;

## Amendment 3 Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Ulrike Müller, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

# Draft opinion Paragraph 1

#### Draft opinion

1. Welcomes the *original idea behind* the Conference on the Future of Europe as *regards* citizens' *information and* participation in *democracy at Union level, aiming at making the Union more understandable and accessible*;

#### Amendment

1. Welcomes the conclusion of the Conference on the Future of Europe as a watershed moment for European democracy and a precedent for citizens' participation in the Union's decision-making process for the years to come;

Or. en

Amendment 4 Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Ulrike Müller, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. Stresses that citizens have identified at the Conference that the technological revolution and geopolitical upheaval pose new transnational challenges which are to be addressed; points out that for citizens to understand the added value of the Union, the European institutions need to be empowered to act more effectively;

Or. en

Amendment 5

Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Ulrike Müller, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

**Draft opinion** 

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### Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

1 b. Recalls the joint commitment by the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission to listen to Europeans and to follow up on the recommendations made by the Conference on the Future of Europe;

Or en

Amendment 6 Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Ulrike Müller, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

Draft opinion Paragraph 2

## Draft opinion

2. Notes that *many* of the proposals *endorsed* by the Conference on the Future of Europe do not require Treaty change but instead call for the strengthening of existing policies and instruments; takes the view that *the division of competences provided for in* the Treaties, *and in particular Articles 4 and 5 TEU*, *should remain unchanged*;

#### Amendment

Notes that *some* of the proposals 2. adopted by the Conference on the Future of Europe do not require Treaty change but instead call for the strengthening of existing policies and instruments; *stresses* that others can only be implemented through a substantial amendment of the Treaties, inter alia, concerning the simplification of the institutional architecture of the Union, more transparency and accountability in the decision-making process and a new reflection on Union competences, such as health and healthcare, defence, education, application of fundamental rights and citizenship; takes the view that these proposals together indicate a clear demand and mandate for an urgent and deep reform of the Union's architecture and decision-making procedures; underlines that this reform necessarily includes a substantial amendment of the Treaties per Article 48 TFEU; states that many of the petitions sent to the Parliament address situations that could be improved if those changes were made;

Amendment 7 Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Ibán García Del Blanco, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Nora Mebarek

Draft opinion Paragraph 2

#### Draft opinion

2. Notes that many of the proposals endorsed by the Conference on the Future of Europe do not require Treaty change but instead call for the strengthening of existing policies and instruments; takes the view that the division of competences provided for in the Treaties, and in particular Articles 4 and 5 TEU, should remain unchanged;

#### Amendment

2. Welcomes the conclusions of the Conference and notes that many of the proposals endorsed by the Conference on the Future of Europe require amendments to the Treaties and that, especially following the most recent crises, the Treaties need to be amended urgently to make sure the Union has the competence to take more effective action during future crises;

Or. en

Amendment 8 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 2

#### Draft opinion

2. Notes that many of the proposals endorsed by the Conference on the Future of Europe do not require Treaty change but instead call for the strengthening of existing policies and instruments; takes the view that the division of competences provided for in the Treaties, and in particular Articles 4 and 5 TEU, should remain unchanged;

## Amendment

2. Welcomes the fact that the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe were drafted in a citizendriven process and stresses the importance of citizens' participation in European democracy; believes that the citizens' panels of the Conference could serve as a basis for future citizens' panels on specific questions of political relevance:

## Amendment 9 Francesca Donato

## Draft opinion Paragraph 2

### Draft opinion

2. **Notes** that many of the proposals endorsed by the Conference on the Future of Europe do not require Treaty change but instead call for the strengthening of existing policies and instruments; takes the view that the division of competences provided for in the Treaties, and in particular Articles 4 and 5 TEU, should remain unchanged;

#### Amendment

2. **Stresses** that many of the proposals endorsed by the Conference on the Future of Europe do not require Treaty change but instead call for the strengthening of existing policies and instruments; takes the view that the division of competences provided for in the Treaties, and in particular Articles 4 and 5 TEU, should remain unchanged;

Or. en

Amendment 10 Tatjana Ždanoka

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

2 a. Calls for abolishing Article 51 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union in order to widen the scope of the Charter;

Or. en

Amendment 11 Gheorghe Falcă

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. Stresses the need to ensure that the values and principles enshrined in the Treaties and in the Charter of

Fundamental Rights are non-negotiable, irreversible and fully upheld in all Member States so they can act as an international standard through diplomacy and dialogue;

Or. en

Amendment 12 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. Notes that the expectations of most petitioners in relation to their rights conferred on them by the Charter of Fundamental Rights are high and go beyond their current scope of application; believes that in order to widen this scope, the abolition of Article 51 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights should be considered;

Or. en

Amendment 13 Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. Calls on the Commission to include in its set of concrete actions to deliver on the Conference proposals the consolidation of a European Citizenship Statute providing citizen-specific rights and freedoms, which would make the European values and rights more tangible for citizens of the Union;

Amendment 14 Gheorghe Falcă

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 b. Notes that the Conference on the Future of Europe shows that any reform of the Union demands the full engagement of the Parliament, the Commission, the Council and the relevant stakeholders, as well as the direct engagement of the citizens through petitions;

Or. en

Amendment 15 Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Ulrike Müller, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 b. Notes that several petitioners complain about violations of fundamental rights because they do not find sufficient protection in their Member States; regrets that the Charter of Fundamental Rights only deploys its protection when rights are violated in application of EU law; states that this restriction leads to situations of impunity and places the most vulnerable sectors of the population, such as minors, in a situation of greater vulnerability; recalls that European citizens and the institutions have spoken out at the Conference on the Future of Europe and expressed their willingness to lift this restriction in order to make the Charter

universally applicable; asks the Commission to include this proposal in the set of concrete actions to deliver on the Conference proposals; states that the Charter should be a universal mechanism which, under certain conditions, prevents national authorities from undermining the democratic principles and values enshrined in the Treaties;

Or en

Amendment 16 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

2 b. Expresses its satisfaction with the ambitious and constructive proposals 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; notes that many of the proposals endorsed by the Conference require treaty changes, while all means currently foreseen in the Treaties, such as the passerelle clauses, shall be used in the short- and mediumterm to implement those proposals;

Or. en

Amendment 17 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 c. Points out that the Conference proposals, which require Treaty changes,

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include the simplification of the institutional architecture of the Union, changing from unanimity to qualified majority voting in relevant areas, more transparency and accountability in the decision-making process, improving the accessibility and effectiveness of the European Citizens Initiative, EU-wide referenda and the right for the Parliament to initiate, amend or revoke legislation;

Or. en

Amendment 18 Gheorghe Falcă

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 c (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

2 c. Points out that the most recent crises call for stronger common European solutions; Notes the importance of qualified majority voting for sanctions of any type;

Or. en

Amendment 19 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 d (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

2 d. Proposes to amend Articles 11, 15 and 16 TEU to improve the transparency of the Union's decision-making process and institutions, and introduce a legal basis to legislate through ordinary legislative procedure on transparency and integrity;

## Amendment 20 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 e (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

2 e. Proposes to amend Article 24 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to improve rules on the legislative follow-up to be given to successful European Citizens initiatives;

Or. en

Amendment 21 Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

Draft opinion Paragraph 3

#### Draft opinion

3. Considers that the right to petition is a citizen's right which *plays* a fundamental role as a direct participatory democracy tool; recalls that petitions can be used as means of creating opportunities for public debate and of initiating policy and legislative changes; calls on *the Member States and the Commission to do their utmost to ensure* that petitions are *adequately followed up*;

#### Amendment

Considers that the right to petition 3. is a citizen's right which should play a fundamental role as a direct participatory democracy tool in the Union's decision*making*; recalls that petitions can be used as means of creating opportunities for public debate and of initiating and evaluating policy and legislative changes; calls on all actors involved in the Treaty reform procedure to seize the occasion to strengthen citizens' participation in the Union's decision-making as well as the right to petition, inter alia by ensuring that petitions are given adequate follow up by the Union institutions; stresses that citizens themselves should have a substantial say in said Treaty reform procedure;

## Amendment 22 Tatjana Ždanoka

## Draft opinion Paragraph 3

### Draft opinion

3. Considers that the right to petition is a *citizen's* right which plays a fundamental role as a direct participatory democracy tool; recalls that petitions can be used as means of creating opportunities for public debate and of initiating policy and legislative changes; calls on the Member States and the Commission to do their utmost to ensure that petitions are adequately followed up;

#### Amendment

3. Considers that the right to petition is a right *of all residents of the Union*, which plays a fundamental role as a direct participatory democracy tool; recalls that petitions can be used as means of creating opportunities for public debate and of initiating policy and legislative changes; calls on the Member States and the Commission to do their utmost to ensure that petitions are adequately followed up;

Or. en

## Amendment 23 Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Ibán García Del Blanco, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Nora Mebarek

# Draft opinion Paragraph 3

#### Draft opinion

3. Considers that the right to petition is a *citizen's* right which plays a fundamental role as a direct participatory democracy tool; recalls that petitions can be used as means of creating opportunities for public debate and of initiating policy and legislative changes; calls on the Member States and the Commission to do their utmost to ensure that petitions are adequately followed up;

## Amendment

3. Considers that the right to petition is a right which plays a fundamental role as a direct participatory democracy tool; recalls that petitions can be used as means of creating opportunities for public debate and of initiating policy and legislative changes; calls on the Member States and the Commission to do their utmost to ensure that petitions are adequately followed up;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 24**

#### Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 a. Requests that Article 227 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union be amended to add foreign natural and legal persons not residing in a Member State to the list of persons who may file a petition on a matter within the field of activity of the Union.

Or. en

Amendment 25 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 b. Requests amending Article 227 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to introduce that the Union and Member State institutions should respond to petitions sent by the Parliament in accordance with the principle of sincere cooperation.

Or. en

Amendment 26 Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Vlad Gheorghe, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Jordi Cañas, Michal Wiezik

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

Amendment

4. *Notes* that the right to petition

4. **Regrets** that the right to petition, as

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remains underused at Union level when compared with the situation at national level; recalls, also, that about a quarter of the petitions submitted to the European Parliament are declared inadmissible, mainly because the matter falls outside the Union's fields of activity, which points out the lack of understanding, among Union citizens, of the Union's remit of competence;

underpinned by Articles 10 and 11 TEU and Articles 24 and 227 TEU, remains underused at Union level; recalls, also, that about a quarter of the petitions submitted to the European Parliament are declared inadmissible, mainly because the matter falls outside the Union's fields of activity; therefore calls to assess the division of competences set forth in the Treaties and more clearly define the Union's remit so that the right to petition can be more effectively implemented in practice;

Or. en

Amendment 27 Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Ibán García Del Blanco, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Nora Mebarek

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

#### Draft opinion

4. Notes that the right to petition remains underused at Union level when compared with the situation at national level; recalls, also, that about a quarter of the petitions submitted to the European Parliament are declared inadmissible, mainly because the matter falls outside the Union's fields of activity, which points out the *lack of understanding, among Union* citizens, of the Union's remit of competence;

#### Amendment

4. Notes that the right to petition remains underused at Union level when compared with the situation at national level; recalls, also, that about a quarter of the petitions submitted to the European Parliament are declared inadmissible, mainly because the matter falls outside the Union's fields of activity, which points out the *need to work on enhancing the* citizens' *awareness* of the Union's remit of competence;

Or. en

Amendment 28 Francesca Donato

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

- 5. Stresses, therefore, the need to increase citizens' knowledge of their right to petition as well as their understanding of the scope of the Union's responsibilities; calls on the Commission and the Member States to adopt measures to make public information and awareness more efficient at Union and national levels in order to improve access to the right to petition and to reduce the number of inadmissible petitions.
- 5. Stresses, therefore, the need to increase citizens' knowledge of their right to petition as well as their understanding of the scope of the Union's responsibilities; calls for clear and fair parameters for the choice of petitions declared admissible to be adopted at Parliament level, on the basis of which discussion should be automatically guaranteed; calls on the Commission and the Member States to adopt measures to make public information and awareness more efficient at Union and national levels in order to improve access to the right to petition and to reduce the number of inadmissible petitions.

Or. en

Amendment 29 Alviina Alametsä

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

#### Draft opinion

5. Stresses, therefore, the need to increase citizens' knowledge of their right to petition as well as their understanding of the scope of the Union's responsibilities; calls on the Commission and the Member States to adopt measures to make public information and awareness more efficient at Union and national levels in order to improve access to the right to petition and to reduce the number of inadmissible petitions.

#### Amendment

5. Stresses, therefore, the need to increase citizens' knowledge of their right to petition as well as their understanding of the scope of the Union's responsibilities; calls on the Commission and the Member States to adopt measures to make public information and awareness more efficient at Union and national levels in order to improve access to the right to petition;

Or. en

Amendment 30 Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Ibán García Del Blanco, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Nora Mebarek

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

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## Draft opinion

5. Stresses, therefore, the need to increase citizens' knowledge of their right to petition as well as their understanding of the scope of the Union's responsibilities; calls on the Commission and the Member States to adopt measures to make public information and awareness more efficient at Union and national levels in order to improve access to the right to petition and to reduce the number of inadmissible petitions.

#### Amendment

5. Stresses, therefore, the need to increase citizens' knowledge of their right to petition as well as their understanding of the scope of the Union's responsibilities; calls on the Commission and the Member States to adopt measures to make public information and awareness more efficient at Union and national levels in order to improve access to the right to petition and with the aim to reduce the number of inadmissible petitions.

Or. en

Amendment 31 Michal Wiezik, Maite Pagazaurtundúa

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

Notes with concern the prevailing 5 a. number of petitions on environmental matters reflecting citizen's clear demands towards the Union as confirmed by the outcomes of the Conference on the Future of Europe; calls therefore for strengthening the weight of the environmental Chapter of the TFEU and for the enforcement and monitoring of the Union environmental legislation implementation taking into account citizen's demands along with Union priorities in tackling climate and biodiversity crises, enhancing the quality, protection and restoration of the ecosystems and zero waste goals;

Or. en

Amendment 32 Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Ibán García Del Blanco, Cristina Maestre Martín De

## Almagro, Nora Mebarek

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

5 a. Supports, as stated in proposal n.36 of the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe, the goal of increasing citizens' participation and youth involvement in the democracy at the Union level to develop a 'full civic experience' for Europeans, to ensure that their voice is heard also in between elections, and that the participation is effective;

Or. en

Amendment 33 Gheorghe Falcă

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

5 a. Welcomes the proposal for the establishment of a permanent mechanism for monitoring and examining foreign direct investments in the Union, through which the Union may prohibit transactions that endanger European security interests;

Or. en

Amendment 34 Michal Wiezik

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

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5 b. Highlights the Union horizontal priority of sustainable development of Europe and of the world and calls for the embedment in Article 3 TEU and Article 11 TFEU of the economic growth and development within the planetary boundaries of the Earth;

Or. en

Amendment 35 Gheorghe Falcă

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 b. Welcomes the proposal for the amendment of the Treaties, aiming at making the Union stronger and resilient in the current geopolitical context;

Or. en

Amendment 36 Marc Angel, Ibán García Del Blanco, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Nora Mebarek

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 b. Supports summarizing elements of citizens' participation in a Union Charter for the involvement of citizens in EU-affairs;

Or. en

Amendment 37 Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Nora Mebarek

## Draft opinion Paragraph 5 c (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

5 c. Invites the Union institutions to work on establishing a user-friendly digital platform where citizens can share ideas, put forward questions to the representatives of the Union institutions and express their views on important EU matters and legislative proposals, in particular youth;

Or. en

Amendment 38 Michal Wiezik, Ulrike Müller

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 c (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

5 c. Highlights Union priorities with regards to environment and calls for the acknowledgement of the biodiversity crisis along with the climate crisis in the text of the Treaties;

Or. en

Amendment 39 Michal Wiezik, Ulrike Müller

Draft opinion Paragraph 5 d (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

5 d. Calls on the Council to steer towards ambition in environmental and climate commitments in light of the rising public pressure.

Or. en

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