

Amendment

Article 8: Fundamental principles

1. The limits and use of Union competences are governed by the principles of conferral, subsidiarity, proportionality, **policy coherence** and loyal cooperation.
2. In accordance with the principle of conferral, the Union shall act within the limits of the competences conferred upon it by the Constitution to attain the objectives the Constitution sets out. Competences not conferred upon the Union by the Constitution remain with the Member States.
3. In accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, in areas which do not fall within its exclusive competence, the Union shall act only if and insofar as the objectives of the intended action cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather, by reason of the scale or effects of the proposed action, be better achieved at Union level.
4. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, the scope and form of Union action shall not exceed what is necessary to achieve the objectives of the Constitution.
5. **In accordance with the principle of policy coherence, environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Union policies and activities referred to in Part 3, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.**
6. **In accordance with the principle of policy coherence, the Union shall ensure the consistency of its external activities as a whole. In particular, the policies and actions of the Union referred to in Part 3 and which are likely to affect developing countries should take account the objectives referred to in article 3.**
7. In accordance with the principle of loyal cooperation, the Union and the Member States shall, in full mutual respect, assist each other to carry out tasks which flow from the Constitution.

Explanatory note

1. **The integration principle is part of the existing Treaty (article 6, EC Treaty).**
2. **The integration principle is currently found in the same part of the EC Treaty as the principles of subsidiarity (art. 5), proportionality (art. 5) and loyal cooperation (art. 10).**
3. **These fundamental principles are all found in a prominent place at the front of the Treaty.**
4. **The integration principle and the subsidiarity principle were both first found in the environment title of the Treaty. Both have been moved forward to a prominent place in the Treaty, subsidiarity by the Treaty of Maastricht, integration by the Treaty of Amsterdam.**

- 5. The integration principle is an essential support to the Union's objective of sustainable development.**
- 6. To treat the integration principle differently from other established fundamental principles and to give it a less prominent place in the Constitution than it now has in the Treaty would be a giant step backward.**
- 7. The resolution of the environmental questions in the developing countries is inextricably linked with the fight against poverty. The consideration of this link in the whole of the policies and actions of the Union and as they affect developing countries, should be taken into account in the principles of the future treaty of the Union. The principle of consistency is mentioned on Article 3 of the EU Treaty and in article 178 of the EC Treaty.**