

EU Treaty amended by the Treaty of Nice — Article 17 (26 February 2001)

Caption: Article 17 of the Treaty on European Union as amended by the Treaty of Nice signed on 26 February 2001.

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"Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union", p. 16, url:http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/treaties/dat/12002M/pdf/12002M_EN.pdf.

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URL: http://www.cvce.eu/obj/eu_treaty_amended_by_the_treaty_of_nice_article_17_26_february_2001-en-6b5f8a36-891c-44e9-b1e1-5f3f4cc2a07b.html

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Treaty on European Union (amended by the Treaty of Nice signed on 26 February 2001)

[...]

Article 17

1. The common foreign and security policy shall include all questions relating to the security of the Union, including the progressive framing of a common defence policy, which might lead to a common defence, should the European Council so decide. It shall in that case recommend to the Member States the adoption of such a decision in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements.

The policy of the Union in accordance with this Article shall not prejudice the specific character of the security and defence policy of certain Member States and shall respect the obligations of certain Member States, which see their common defence realised in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), under the North Atlantic Treaty and be compatible with the common security and defence policy established within that framework.

The progressive framing of a common defence policy will be supported, as Member States consider appropriate, by cooperation between them in the field of armaments.

2. Questions referred to in this Article shall include humanitarian and rescue tasks, peacekeeping tasks and tasks of combat forces in crisis management, including peacemaking.

3. Decisions having defence implications dealt with under this Article shall be taken without prejudice to the policies and obligations referred to in paragraph 1, second subparagraph.

4. The provisions of this Article shall not prevent the development of closer cooperation between two or more Member States on a bilateral level, in the framework of the Western European Union (WEU) and NATO, provided such cooperation does not run counter to or impede that provided for in this Title.

5. With a view to furthering the objectives of this Article, the provisions of this Article will be reviewed in accordance with Article 48.

[...]