Glossary:Enhanced cooperation

Statistics Explained

The Treaty of Amsterdam created the formal possibility of a certain number of European Union (EU) Member States establishing an **enhanced cooperation** between themselves on matters covered by the Treaties , using the institutions and procedures of the European Union.

The Treaty of Nice facilitates the establishment of enhanced cooperation:

- the right of veto which the Member States enjoyed over the establishment of enhanced cooperation has disappeared (except in the field of foreign policy);
- the number of Member States required for launching the procedure has changed from the majority to the fixed number of eight Member States;
- its scope has been extended to the common foreign and security policy (CFSP).

Source

• Summaries of EU legislation