

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of: PART I OF THE CONSTITUTION, TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions, Article 15 : The European Parliament

By Ms / Mr : BROK; SANTER; TAJANI; TEUFEL; VAN DER LINDEN; ALMEIDA GARRETT; AZEVEDO; BASILE; BREJC; CUSHNAHAN; DEMETRIOU; DOLORES; FOGLER; FRENDON; KAUPPI; KELEMEN; KORHONEN; KRASTS; KROUPA; MAJ-WEGGEN; MLADENOV; PIKS; RACK; VAN DIJK; WITTBRODT; WÜRMELING; ZIELENIEC; ZILE

Status : - Member - Alternate

Suggestion

TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions

Article 15 : The European Parliament

1. The European Parliament shall *form the House of Citizens and*, jointly with the Council, enact legislation *and act as budgetary authority*, as well as exercise functions of political control and consultation as laid down in the Constitution. It shall elect the President of the European Commission.
2. The European Parliament shall be directly elected by universal suffrage of European citizens in free and secret ballot for a term of five years. Its members shall not exceed seven hundred in number. Representation of European citizens shall be degressively proportional, with a minimum threshold of ~~four~~ *six* members per Member State. *The number of representatives elected in each Member State shall be as follows:*
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3. The European Parliament shall elect its President and its officers from among its members, for a term of ~~five~~ *two and a half* years.
4. *The European Parliament shall control the European Commission.*
5. *The European Parliament may, acting by a majority of its members, request the Commission to submit any appropriate proposal on matters on which it considers that a Union Act is required for the purpose of implementing this Constitution. The President of*

the Commission must give a reasoned opinion to the plenary of the European Parliament in case it should decide not to follow the request.

6. *In the course of its duties, the European Parliament may, at the request of a quarter of its members, set up a temporary Committee of Inquiry to investigate, without prejudice to the powers conferred by this Constitution on other institutions or bodies, alleged contraventions or maladministration in the implementation of Union law, except where the alleged facts are being examined before a court and while the case is still being subject to legal proceedings. The temporary Committee of Inquiry shall cease to exist on the submission of its report.*
 7. *The European Parliament may, by a motion of censure carried out by a two-third majority of the votes cast, representing the majority of the members of the European Parliament, force the Commission to resign as a body.*
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Explanation (if any) :

The character of the European Parliament as House of the Citizens should be stressed.

The budgetary authority should be fully shared between the European Parliament and the Council.

So far, the Constitution does not include any provision on the distribution of seats per country within the European Parliament. This has been the case in all treaties up to date and should also be the case in the European Constitution. A list of representatives per Member State should be added here. The numbers have to be fixed according to the relations decided in Nice, but newly calculated to stay below 700.

The request of the EP to the Commission to submit a proposal is already laid down in Art. 192 (2) ECT.

The Committee of Inquiry is laid down in Art. 193 ECT currently and should be taken over.