

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : Article 15 (Title IV)

Suggestion for protocol :

By Ms / Mr : David Heathcoat-Amory

Status : X - Member - Alternate

Article 15 : The European Parliament

1. The European Parliament shall, *[jointly]* with the Council, *[enact legislation]* **assist in drafting legislative proposals**, as well as exercise functions of political control and consultation as laid down in the Constitution. It shall *[elect]* **confirm the appointment of** the President of the European Commission.
 2. The European Parliament shall be directly elected by universal suffrage. *[of European citizens]* in free and secret ballots for a term of five years. Its members shall not exceed seven hundred in number, **and shall be elected as national representatives**. *[Representation of European citizens shall be degressively proportional, with a minimum threshold of four members per Member State.]*
 3. The European Parliament shall elect its President and its officers from among its members, for a *[term of five years]* **set term**.
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Explanation (if any) : Amendments to (1) define the EP as assisting the Council, rather than as holding equal legislative power.

The changes to (2) remove any possibility that MEPs may be elected on a Common European List. This would alienate the MEP even further from the ordinary citizen. The concept of « degressive proportionality » is too vague.

The change to (3) permits presidencies to be split between two individuals or political groups during a parliamentary term.