

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article: 17b, Part I

By Ms Liene Liepina, Mr Rihards Piks, Mr Arturs Krisjanis Karins, Mr Guntars Krasts.

Status: - Member: L.Liepina; R.Piks
- Alternate: A.K.Karins; G.Krasts

Article 17b : Qualified majority

~~1. When the European Council or the Council take decisions by qualified majority, such a majority shall consist of the majority of Member States, representing at least three fifths of the population of the Union.~~

~~2. Within the European Council, its President and the President of the Commission do not vote.~~

1. When the European Council or the Council takes decisions by a qualified majority, the votes of the members shall be weighted as follows:¹

Belgium	12
Czech Republic	12
Denmark	7
Germany	29
Estonia	4
Greece	12
Spain	27
France	29
Ireland	7
Italy	29
Cyprus	4
Latvia	4
Lithuania	7
Luxembourg	4
Hungary	12
Malta	3
Netherlands	13
Austria	10
Poland	27
Portugal	12
Slovenia	4
Slovakia	7
Finland	7

¹ Figures for EU-27, including Bulgaria and Romania, according to Nice, to be annexed in a Protocol.

Sweden	10
United Kingdom	29

2. Acts referred to under para. 1 above shall require for their adoption at least 232 votes in favour cast by a majority of the Members. Where the Constitution requires them to be adopted on a proposal from the Commission.
In other cases, these acts shall require at least 232 votes in favour, cast by at least two-thirds of the Members.
3. When a decision is to be adopted by a qualified majority, a Member may request verification that the Member States constituting the qualified majority represent at least 62% of the total population of the Union. If that condition is shown not to have been met, the decision in question shall not be adopted.
4. Abstentions by Members present in person or represented shall not prevent the adoption of acts which require unanimity.
5. The European Council, acting unanimously, may agree to adjust these arrangements to provide for any future enlargement of the Union.

Explanation (if any) :

There should be kept provisions as agreed at Nice European Council.

In order to ensure flexibility it should be open to the European Council should be authorized to decide on amendments of these arrangements.