

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of: PART I OF THE CONSTITUTION, TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions, Article 18 : The European Commission

By Ms / Mr : **BROK; SANTER; AZEVEDO; BREJC; CUSHNAHAN; DEMETRIOU; DOLORES; FOGLER; FRENDON; KAUPPI; KELEMEN; KORHONEN; KRASTS; KROUPA; LENNMARKER; MAIJ-WEGGEN; MLADENOV; PIKS; RACK; VAN DIJK; WITTBRODT; WÜRMEILING; ZIELENIEC; ZILE**

Status : - Member - Alternate

Suggestion

TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions

Article 18 : The European Commission

1. The European Commission shall *as the executive power* safeguard the general European interest *of the Union*. It shall ensure the application of the Constitution, and steps taken by the institutions under the Constitution. It shall also *ensure the proper functioning of the Union and* exercise coordinating, executive and management functions as laid down in the Constitution.
2. ~~Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, Union acts can be adopted only on the basis of a Commission proposal.~~ *The Commission has the exclusive right to initiate Union legislation and decisions, except in cases where this Constitution provides otherwise.*
3. *The Commission supervises the development of the national economic policies, in particular of national budgets to ensure that Member States do not depart from the medium-term objective for the budgetary position of close to balance or that they do not otherwise jeopardise the proper functioning of the economic and monetary union, under the conditions laid down in this Constitution.*
3. 4. ~~The Commission shall consist of a President and up to fourteen other members. It may call on the help of Associate Commissioners.~~ *The Commission shall include one national of each of the Member States. Only nationals of the Member States may be members of the Commission.*

5. *The Commission decides with the majority of its members.*

4. 6. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Commission shall be completely independent. In the discharge of their duties members of the Commission shall neither seek nor take instructions from any government or other body. *They shall refrain from any action incompatible with their duties.*

Explanation (if any) :

The executive role of the Commission should be strengthened.

The traditional stipulations that only nationals of Member States could become Commissioners and that the Commission decides by the majority of its members were missing.

The Constitution should stick to the well-established rule of one Commissioner per country.

The role of the Commission in economic affairs, especially the supervision of the budgets, should be stressed.