

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 18

By Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallén and Mr Sven-Olof Petersson, government representatives, and Mr Sören Lekberg, Mr Kenneth Kvist and Mr Ingvar Svensson, national parliament representatives.

Status : - Member: Hjelm-Wallén and Lekberg
 - Alternate: Petersson, Kvist and Svensson

Article 18 : The European Commission

1. The European Commission shall safeguard the general European interest. It shall ensure **that the provisions of this Constitution and measures taken by the institutions are applied** ~~the application of the Constitution, and steps taken by the institutions under the Constitution.~~¹ It shall also 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.
3. ~~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.**

When the Union consists of 27 Member States, the number of the Members of the Commission must be less than the number of Member States. The Members of the Commission shall be chosen according to a rotation system based on the principle of equality, the implementing arrangements for which shall be adopted by the Council, acting unanimously.

These implementing measures containing the criteria and rules necessary for determining the composition of successive colleges shall be based on the following principles:

- Member States shall be treated on a strictly equal footing as regards determination of the sequence of, and the time spent by, their nationals as Members of the Commission; consequently, the difference between the total number of terms of office held by nationals of any given pair of Member States may never be more than one;
- Each successive college shall be composed as to reflect satisfactorily the demographic and geographical range of all the Member States of the Union.²

4. 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.
5. **The Commission shall act by a majority of its Members.**³

¹ The proposed text is more precise and corresponds to Article 211 EC.

² The Convention should keep to the provisions of the Treaty of Nice concerning the composition of the Commission.

³ Corresponds to Article 219 EC.