

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : Art. 18

Suggestion for protocol :

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Status : - Members and Alternates

Article 18 : The European Commission

1. The European Commission shall ~~safeguard~~ **promote** the general European interest and **take every initiative to that end**. It shall ensure the application of the Constitution, and steps taken by the institutions under the Constitution.

2. **The Commission shall exercise the powers conferred to it by the Council for the implementation of the rules laid down by the latter.**

It shall also exercise coordinating, executive and management functions as laid down in the Constitution.

3. **The Commission shall operate as a College and all of its Members shall be equal. Its decisions are taken by a majority of its members. The Commission shall adopt its Rules of Procedure.**

4. Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, Union acts can be adopted only on the basis of a Commission proposal.

5. ~~The Commission shall consist of a President and up to fourteen other members. It may call on the help of Associate Commissioners.~~

The Commission must include one national of each of the Member States.

When the Union consists of 27 Members, the number of members of the Commission shall be less than the number of Member States. The Members of the Commission shall be chosen

according to a rotation system based on the principles 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.**

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.

Explanation (if any) :