

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendement of Article : 18

Suggestion for Part I

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Status : - Member Alternate

Article 18 : The European Commission

1. The European Commission safeguards the general European interest. It ensures the application of the Constitution, and measures taken by the institutions under the Constitution. **Except where the Constitution provides otherwise, the Commission exercises the executive function.** It also exercises 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 deputy Commissioners.~~ **include one national of each of the Member States.**
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 President of the Commission shall lay down guidelines within the framework of which the Commission shall work. He shall decide on its internal organisation in order to ensure that it acts consistently, efficiently and on a collegiate basis.**

Without prejudice to Art. 19 para. 1, the President shall appoint vice-presidents from amongst members of the Commission.

A member of the Commission shall resign if the President so requests, after obtaining the approval of the College.

6. **The Commission shall act as a collegial body taking decisions by a majority of its members.**

Explanation (if any) :

Para 1 : The exercise of the executive function by the Commission should be explicitly stated as the general rule.

Para 3: This provision is of particular importance for it demonstrates that all Members States have an equal stake in the European project of integration.

Para 5, subparagraph 1: Is former Para 4 of draft article 18a.

Para 5, subparagraph 3 and Para 6 reproduce current Treaty articles of particular importance for the functioning and internal organization of the Commission on which there is broad consensus.