

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 18

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PRAESIDIUM	TIMOTHY KIRKHOPE MEP
Article 18 : The European Commission 1. The European Commission shall safeguard the general European interest. It shall ensure the application of the Constitution, and steps taken by the institutions under the Constitution. It shall also exercise co-ordinating, 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. 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.	Article 18 : The European Commission 1. The European Commission shall <u>serve the democratically elected European institutions</u> . It shall ensure the application of the <u>simplifying Treaty</u> , steps taken by the institutions under the <u>simplifying Treaty, as well as legislation enacted by the European Parliament and Council</u> . It shall also exercise co-ordinating and management functions as laid down in the <u>simplifying Treaty</u> . <i>DELETE</i> 3. The Commission shall consist of a <u>Commission Chairman and a Commissioner to supervise each policy area</u> . 4. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Commission shall be <u>supervised by the European Parliament and Council</u> . Explanation: The Laeken Declaration called for more democracy in the European Union and set the task of increasing the democratic legitimacy of the European legislative process. Currently, the right of initiative lies with the unelected European Commission. This is the single most important reason why we are suffering from the

	<p>infamous democratic deficit. The right of initiative should lie with the European Parliament and the Commission should be a non-political civil service.</p>
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