

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article :18a1

By Mr Sören Lekberg and Mr Kenneth Kvist

Status : - Member: Sören Lekberg Alternate: Kenneth Kvist

Article 18a : The President of the European Commission

1. The European Council, deciding by qualified majority, should put forward two or four candidates for the Presidency of the Commission. At least half of the candidates should be women. The European Parliament should hold an indicative vote among these candidates. Each national parliament will then hold a vote on the candidates. Each national parliament will have the same number of votes as the number of that Member States' representatives in the European Parliament. The candidate which receives the highest number of votes from the national parliaments is elected.

~~1. Taking into account the elections to the European Parliament, the European Council, deciding by qualified majority, shall put forward to the European Parliament its proposed candidate for the Presidency of the Commission. This candidate shall be elected by the European Parliament by a majority of its members. If this candidate does not receive the required majority support, the European Council shall within one month put forward a new candidate, following the same procedure as before.~~

Explanation (if any) :

The procedure outlined above would give the national parliaments an active role, in line with the Nice and Laeken Declarations. National parliaments are deeply rooted in the Member States and among the citizens. Thus, with this procedure the EU and the Commission could gain in legitimacy among the citizens. Other technical solutions are possible, for instance the European Parliament could be given the right to nominate candidates. The proposal is presented in greater detail in CONV 500/03 "Election of the European Commission President by the National Parliaments".