

## AMENDMENT FORM

### Suggestion for amendment of Article 18a

By Ms Maria BERGER

Status: Alternate

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Article 18a : The President of the European Commission **and the European Commissioners**

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.

2. Each Member State shall submit a list of three persons, of which at least one must be a woman, whom it considers qualified to be a European Commissioner. The President-elect, taking account of European political and geographical balance **as well as of gender balance**, shall, from among the names submitted, select as members of the Commission up to ~~thirteen~~ **eighteen** persons chosen for their competence, European commitment, and guaranteed independence. **Among equally qualified candidates priority is to be given to persons nominated by Member States whose candidates were not members of the outgoing Commission.** The President, ~~and~~ the persons so nominated for membership of the Commission **and the Union`s Foreign Minister** shall be submitted as a body to a vote of approval by the European Parliament.

3. The Commission, as a body, shall be responsible to the European Parliament. Under the procedures set out at Art. X of the Constitution, it may pass a censure motion on the Commission. If such a motion is passed, the members of the Commission must all resign. They shall continue to handle everyday business until their successors are nominated.

4. The Commission shall work to guidelines laid down by its President. He shall decide its internal organisation, ensuring that it acts consistently, efficiently and on a collegiate basis. He shall appoint vice-presidents from among the members of the Commission.

~~5. The President may appoint Associate Commissioners, chosen according to the same criteria as  
apply for members of the Commission. Their number must not exceed the number of  
members of the Commission.~~

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Explanation (if any):