

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of: PART I OF THE CONSTITUTION, TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions, Article 18a : The President of the European Commission

By Ms / Mr : **BROK; SANTER; TAJANI; TEUFEL; VAN DER LINDEN; ALTMAIER; AZEVEDO; BASILE; BREJC; CUSHNAHAN; DEMETRIOU; DOLORES; FOGLER; FRENDON; KAUPPI; KELEMEN; KORHONEN; KRASTS; KROUPA; LAMASSOURE; LENNMARKER; MAIJ-WEGGEN; MLADENOV; PIKS; RACK; VAN DIJK; WITTBRODT; WÜRMELING; ZIELENIEC; ZILE**

Status : - Member - Alternate

Suggestion

TITLE IV: The Union's Institutions

Article 18a : The President and the members of the European Commission

1. Taking into account the *result of 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 *newly elected* 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, *including the candidate for the office of the Foreign Minister*, shall, from among the names submitted, select *as the other* members of the Commission ~~up to thirteen persons~~ chosen for their competence, European commitment, and guaranteed independence. The President and the persons so nominated for membership of the Commission shall be submitted as a body to a vote of approval by the European Parliament *after having been heard individually by the European Parliament*.
3. *The President and the other members of the Commission are elected for a period of five years.*

- 3.4. 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.
- 4.5. 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.

Explanation (if any) :

It is necessary that the President of the Commission will be elected on the background of the results of the elections to the European Parliament. It is also important that he will be elected for 5 years and that this will be done by the European Parliament at its first session after the elections. Otherwise there is no clear link to the results of the elections and to any provision in terms of timing.

The role of the Commission President in proposing the Members of the Commission should be strengthened. It is therefore questionable if a list of three persons per Member State would not significantly reduce his “marge de manoeuvre”. The selection process for the Minister for Foreign Affairs should reflect his “double-hatted” legitimacy. Therefore the process should be identical – to the extent possible – to the one for the other Commissioners.