

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 18a, Title IV, Part I

Suggestion for protocol :

By Ms / Mr : Hain

Status : - Member

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1. OK.
 2. Each Member State shall submit ~~one person~~ ~~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, shall, from among the names submitted, select as 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.
 3. The Commission, as a body, shall be ~~accountable~~ ~~responsible~~ to the European Parliament ~~and to the Council of Ministers~~. 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 OK.
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Explanation (if any) :

Article 18a 2 The success of such a system depends on its ability to attract candidates of the highest calibre. The complexity of the proposed system risks dissuading the best candidates from putting themselves forward. A system whereby each country put forward only one candidate is more likely to attract good candidates. We support the aim of making the Commission more representative of the diverse population of the Union.

More generally, while we support the aim of a smaller Commission, we had expected this to be addressed on the basis agreed at Nice.

Article 18a 3 The Commission should continue to be accountable to the Council as well as to the Parliament in order to maintain the current institutional balance.