

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : III - 18

Suggestion for protocol :

By Mr : Dick Roche

Status : - Member

Article III-18 (ex Article 42)

In the field of social security, a European law or framework law shall establish such measures as are necessary to bring about freedom of movement for workers by introducing a system to secure for migrant workers and their dependants:

- (a) aggregation, for the purpose of acquiring and retaining the right to benefit and of calculating the amount of benefit, of all periods taken into account under the laws of the several countries;
- (b) payment of benefits to persons resident in the territories of Member States.

The European law or framework law shall be adopted by the Council acting unanimously.

Explanation (if any) : It is very important to remember that Member States have different social policies and different systems of social security. Decisions in this area must recognise the different social, cultural and economic backgrounds in, and requirements of, the different Member States. I believe that unanimity in Council in the best way of ensuring recognition of this diversity. I therefore continue to favour the existing Treaty situation (unanimity in Council with co-decision) and cannot accept a move to the ordinary legislative procedure in these areas.