Simulation: European Union Bargaining

Each student will be assigned a country identification and a position in one of the three institutional actors within the co-decision process of the EU.

Commissioners and Parliamentarians will not have conferred before the simulation, but members of the Council of Ministers (COREPER or the General Affairs Committee, depending on the issue), will have conferred and will have a better idea of each other’s interests.

Since we have thirty-eight, not enough for a full-blown simulation of the EU-27, we will have a truncated format based on the following countries:

Germany:
- 1 member on the Commission,
- 2 members on the Council, (10 QMVs)
- 2 EMPs,

France:
- 1 member on the Commission,
- 2 members on the Council, (10 QMVs)
- 1 EMP,

The Netherlands:
- 1 member on the Commission,
- 1 member on the Council, (4 QMVs)
- 1 EMP,

Spain:
- 1 member on the Commission,
- 1 member on the Council, (8 QMVs)
- 1 EMP,

Sweden:
- 1 member on the Commission,
- 1 member on the Council, (3 QMVs)
- 1 EMP,

Poland:
- 1 member on the Commission,
- 1 member on the Council, (8 QMVs)
- 1 EMP,
The European Commission (College of Commissioners: simple majority)

Portugal (Montero) (President)
Germany (a, Competition)
France (, Agriculture)
The Netherlands (, Economic & Monetary Affairs)
Spain (, Regional Policy)
Sweden (, External Relations)
Poland (, Consumer Protection)

The Council of Ministers (Committee of Permanent Representatives, COREPER II with tour de table) Total of 53 QMVs

(Simple majority or qualified majority (blocking minority requires 4 member states and 27 QMVs); unanimity to amend/reverse the Commission or amend treaties)

Italy (Montero) 10 QMVs (President)
Germany () 10 QMVs
France () 10 QMVs
The Netherlands () 4 QMVs
Spain () 8 QMVs
Sweden () 3 QMVs
Poland () 8 QMVs

The European Parliament (Plenary Session, absolute majority to approve/reject/amend legislation)

Germany (), 2 votes
France (1 vote)
The Netherlands (), 1 vote
Spain (), 1 vote
Sweden (), 1 vote
Poland (), 1 vote

Conciliation Committee: in the event of a conflict between the Council and the Parliament, both bodies can form a Conciliation Committee to iron out differences (requires equal number of Council and EP members).

If the Conciliation Committee fails: the Council may overrule the EP by a qualified majority. The EP can then overturn the Council by an absolute majority. If this last vote fails, the proposal becomes law.