EU treaty key reforms

European Union foreign ministers are meeting to draft a reform treaty to replace the EU constitution, rejected by French and Dutch voters in 2005, and streamline the way the 27-member bloc operates in the years ahead

Voting system: Number of votes allocated to members according to population size. Introduction delayed until 2014 to placate Polish fears that system penalises smaller countries

President: Serves 2.5 year term.
Replaces system where states take turns to hold post for six months

Foreign affairs: Revamped post of foreign policy chief to bolster common foreign and security policy

EU Commission: Executive body cut from 27 to 17 members, selected in rotation for five-year term

Rights charter: UK to opt out of 50-article list due to concern over impact on business and legal system