EU seating plan controversy EU leaders are hoping to clinch a deal on the long-awaited Reform Treaty despite strong opposition from Italy over the distribution of seats in the European Parliament. Under the new rules, Italy would lose the parity of seats it holds with Britain and France, whose populations are bigger REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS\* Current total: 785 Revised total: 750 Current New Country Pop. millions Germany 82.4 99 96 Austria 8.2 18 19 **France** 63.0 7.7 78 74 Bulgaria 18 18 Britain 60.4 78 73 Denmark 5.4 14 13 58.7 Italy 78 72 Slovakia 5.4 14 13 **Spain** 43.7 54 Finland 5.3 13 54 14 Poland 38.1 54 51 Ireland 4.2 13 12 Romania 12 21.6 35 33 Lithuania 3.4 13 Netherlands 16.3 27 9 26 Latvia 2.3 Greece 11.1 24 22 Slovenia 2.0 7 8 Belgium 10.5 24 22 Estonia 1.3 6 6 22 6 6 **Portugal** 10.5 24 Cyprus 0.8 Czech Rep. 10.2 24 22 Lux. 0.4 6 6 10.1 24 22 Malta 0.4 6 Hungary

Sweden

Source: Eurostat

9.0

Picture: Getty Images

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20

\*Allocations calculated to mirror

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population size