

Lisbon Treaty factfile



★ **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 give EU more clout on world stage

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

★ **Voting system:** Based on “double majority” system requiring 55% of member states, representing 65% of EU population, to pass decision. System phased in from 2014-17

★ **Rights charter:** European Court of Justice given more power by being allowed to rule on whether national legislation on justice and home affairs is compatible with EU laws. UK, Ireland and Poland secured opt-outs