

Report by Mr Jean S itlinger, rapporteur of the Political Committee ¹

APPLICATION IN UNITED KINGDOM

493.02

1. The Political Committee's proposal corresponds fairly closely to the "regional list" system proposed by the Labour government in 1977 but rejected by the House of Commons. Its attraction to Members from the other Member States can be seen from Annex I, which indicates that 8 out of 10 will have few or no changes to make to their existing procedures for European elections.
2. The major problem for the United Kingdom will of course be the acceptance of the principle of proportional representation. The other principal problem for the UK (and also for France) will be to decide on what basis to create the Euro-constituencies. Annex II shows three possible such bases, but there are other possibilities. Model B was proposed for the regional list system in 1977 and is the median of the three models.
3. A further problem lies in the application to the UK of the d'Hondt method of allocation of seats under the S itlinger proposals. The first allocation is made by totalling at national level all the votes won by each list in each multi-member constituency. A common application of the d'Hondt method is by divisors - although the decision as to which variation of d'Hondt to use is left by the European Parliament to the Member States.
4. In Annex III the simplest divisor method is applied on national level to the votes received by each of the four main political parties in the European elections of June 1979. Thus, the Conservative party, with 6.5 million votes would have won 41 seats, the Labour party with 4.3 million votes 26 seats, the Liberal party with 1.7 million votes 10 seats and the Scottish National party with 248,000 votes would have won 1 seat.

This divisor method will thus ensure that nationalist parties, perhaps offering candidates in only one or two multi-member constituencies, will win seats if their support is strong enough.

D. R. L.

PROCEDURE ELECTORALE UNIFORME

CIRCONSCRIPTIONS POSSIBLES

Projet d'Acte (Art.2) : Dans chaque circonscription au moins 3 et au maximum 15 représentants.

<u>Pays</u>	<u>Représentants</u>	<u>Circonscriptions possibles</u>	<u>Elections 1979</u>
BELGIQUE	24	2 et 3 collèges électoraux	identique
DANEMARK	16	2 + Groenland	1 + Groenland
REP. FED. ALL.	81	10 (länder) + Berlin	10 ou 1 + Berlin
FRANCE	81	? 6	1
GRECE	24	2	1 (oct.81)
IRLANDE	15	4	identique
ITALIE	81	6	5
LUXEMBOURG	6	2	1
PAYS-BAS	25	2	1
ROYAUME-UNI	81	? 27 ou 12	78 + Irl.Nord

Conclusions :

Par rapport aux élections de 1979 :

- a) Pas de changement : Belgique, Irlande - 2
- b) Peu de changements: Danemark, RFA, Grèce, Italie, Luxembourg, Pays-Bas - 6
- c) Beaucoup de changements: France, Royaume-Uni - 2.

D. MILLAR

Annex II

POSSIBLE CONSTITUENCY BREAKDOWNS

	A		B		C	
	Constits.	Members	Constits.	Members	Constits.	Memb
England	5	66 (13-14)*	9	66	22	66 (3
Scotland	1	8	1	8	2	8 (4
Wales	1	4	1	4	1	4
N Ireland	1	3	1	3	1	3
Totals	8	81	12	81	26	81

* = number of Members per constituency

Possible Constituencies

	A	B	C
<u>England</u>	North Central South-East South-West London	North North-West Yorks. & Humberside West Midlands East Midlands East Anglia London South-East South-West	Combinations of existing Euro-constituencie

TABLEAU I

APPLICATION AUX RESULTATS EN GRANDE-BRETAGNE DES ELECTIONS
EUROPEENNES DE 1979 DE LA METHODE D'HONDT AUX DIVISEURS

	Voix: Conservateurs	Voix: Travailleurs	Voix: Libéraux	Voix: Nationalist écossais
Diviseur	6,508,481	4,253,210	1,691,600	247,836
1	6,508,481 (1)	4,253,210 (2)	1,691,600 (6)	<u>247,836 (50)</u>
2	3,254,240 (3)	2,126,605 (5)	845,800 (14)	123,918
3	2,169,493 (4)	1,417,737 (8)	563,861 (21)	
4	1,627,620 (7)	1,063,303 (11)	422,900 (29)	Total de sièges gagnés - 1
5	1,301,696 (9)	850,642 (13)	378,320 (33)	
6	1,084,747 (10)	708,868 (17)	281,933 (44)	
7	929,783 (12)	607,601 (19)	241,658 (51)	
8	813,560 (15)	531,651 (23)	211,450 (59)	
9	723,165 (16)	472,579 (25)	127,256 (66)	
10	650,848 (18)	425,321 (28)	<u>169,160 (74)</u>	
11	595,280 (20)	386,655 (31)	153,782	
12	542,373 (22)	354,434 (35)	Total de sièges gagnés - 10	
13	500,652 (24)	327,170 (37)		
14	464,892 (26)	303,801 (41)		
15	433,899 (27)	283,547 (42)		
16	406,780 (30)	265,826 (46)		
17	382,852 (32)	250,189 (49)		
18	361,582 (34)	236,289 (53)		
19	342,552 (36)	223,853 (56)		
20	325,424 (38)	212,661 (58)		
21	309,928 (39)	202,534 (62)		
22	295,840 (40)	193,328 (64)		
23	282,977 (43)	184,922 (68)		
24	271,187 (44)	177,217 (70)		
25	260,339 (47)	170,128 (73)		
26	250,326 (48)	<u>163,585 (76)</u>	Total de sièges gagnés - 26	
27	241,055 (52)	157,526		

Diviseur	Voix: Conservateurs 6,508,481	Voix: Travailleurs 4,253,210	Voix: Libéraux 1,691,600	Voix: Nationalis écossais 247,836
28	232,446 (54)			
29	224,430 (55)			
30	216,949 (57)			
31	209,951 (60)			
32	203,390 (61)			
33	197,227 (63)			
34	191,426 (65)			
35	185,957 (67)			
36	180,791 (69)			
37	175,905 (71)			
38	171,276 (72)			
39	166,884 (75)			
40	162,712 (77)			
41	158,743 (78)			
42	154,964			

Total de sièges
gagnés - 41

Notes:

- a) Seul les voix exprimées dans les 78 circonscriptions en Grande Bretagne sont pris en considération. Les voix exprimées dans l'Irlande de Nord sont exclus.
- b) Chiffres calculées au centième d'unité.

