– New procedure: Double Majority System

4. New President of the European Council

5. New High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
   With the ambitiously worded “High Representative of the Union for Foreign
   Affairs and Security Policy”, the Lisbon Treaty aimed to bring under one
   umbrella those portfolios that have an external dimension, including foreign
   affairs, but also trade, agriculture, or the environment. As a consequence, this
   new post replaced the High Representative for CFSP. The High Representative
   was placed within the supranational Commission.

6. Elimination of 3-Pillar system

7. Legally-binding Charter of Fundamental Rights
   Full opt-outs for Poland & UK
   Partial opt-outs for Ireland & Denmark: asylum, visa, immigration-related

8. 1/3 national parliaments can force legislative reconsideration
   Should 1/3 national parliaments voice concerns, the proposals would be sent back
   for review by the Commission. If, after this, a majority of national parliaments
   still oppose the proposal, and national governments or the EP also disagree, then
   the proposal would be struck down. Although this change in procedures does not
   necessarily mean that national parliaments have the ability to block EU
   legislation outright, it certainly provides for greater dialogue between Brussels
   and national capitals.

9. European Court of Justice has power to overrule Justice & Home Affairs issues… ?

10. Citizens Initiative: petition w/ 1 million signatures triggers legislative proposal
    Now a petition of 1m signatures forces the Commission to formulate a legislative
    proposal which is then voted upon by the EP and the Council of Ministers.

Continued Problems…

1. Treaty changes still have to be ratified by all member states (issue of EU being
   “held hostage” by 1 member state refusing to ratify).

2008 Crisis