



European
Commission

José Manuel Barroso

President of the European Commission

José Manuel Barroso was elected to the post of President of the European Commission for the first time in July 2004. He was re-elected for a second term in September 2009.

Mr Barroso holds a Degree in law from the University of Lisbon, a Diploma in European Studies from the European University Institute, University of Geneva, and a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Geneva. During his time as an academic, he was Head of the International Relations Department of Lusíada University, Lisbon and founded the University Association for European Studies.

His political career began in 1980 when he joined the Social Democratic Party (PSD). He was named President of the party in 1999 and re-elected three times. He has served as Vice President of the European People's Party, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Minister for Foreign Affairs in Portugal. Mr Barroso became Prime Minister of Portugal in April 2002. He remained in office until 2004 when he was elected by the European Parliament to the post of President of the European Commission.



Herman Van Rompuy

President of the European Council

Herman Van Rompuy has served as the first full-time President of the European Council since 1 December 2009. In 2012, he was re-elected for a second term, running between June 2012 and November 2014.

A former economist at the National Bank of Belgium, Herman Van Rompuy holds a Bachelor in Philosophy, and a Master in Applied Economics from the university K.U. Leuven. He began his political career in 1973 as national vice-president of his party's youth council, and has held various responsibilities within his party and in the Belgian Parliament, serving in turn as Senator (1988-1995) and Member of Parliament (1995-2009).

He has also served in several government positions, including as Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Budget, Minister of State and Secretary of State for Finance and Small Businesses. Between 2007 and 2008, Mr Van Rompuy served as Speaker of the House of Representatives before becoming Prime Minister of Belgium. This was the role he occupied when he was first elected as President of the European Council.



László Andor

Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

László Andor is the European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, a position he has held since 10 February, 2010.

Mr Andor holds an M.A. in Development Economics from the University of Manchester, UK and a Ph.D in economics. He has served as an expert on the Budgetary and Finance Committee of the Hungarian National Assembly and as an advisor to the World Bank and the Hungarian Prime Minister's Office. Between 2005 and 2010, Mr Andor was a member of the board of directors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London. He has participated in a number of international research projects like the project for European Economic Policy Co-operation (EPOC), or the UK co-funded project on economic policy and combating poverty.

Mr Andor was working as associate professor at the Economics Department at the Corvinus University of Budapest and at the King Sigismund College when he became Commissioner in 2010.



George Soros

Chairman of the Open Society Foundation

George Soros is the founder and chairman of Open Society—a network of foundations, partners, and projects in more than 100 countries.

Mr Soros began his philanthropy in 1979, giving scholarships to black South Africans under apartheid. In the 1980s, he helped undermine Communism in the Eastern Bloc by providing Xerox machines to copy banned texts, and supporting cultural exchanges with the West.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, he created Central European University to promote critical thinking. He later expanded his philanthropy to the United States, Africa, and Asia. The Open Society Foundations have provided school and university fees for thousands of promising students, including young Roma, refugees from armed conflicts, and young people from other marginalized groups. Mr Soros has supported independent organizations such as Global Witness, the International Crisis Group, the European Council on Foreign Relations, and the Institute for New Economic Thinking.



Heather Roy

President of the Social Platform

Heather Roy is the President of the Social Platform and the Secretary General of Eurodiaconia (the European Federation for Diaconia).

Ms Roy has a professional background in advocacy and organisational management including membership support and development, project and programme management, fundraising, strategic planning and external representation. She has previously worked in the homelessness sector in her native Scotland and as European Director for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. She has also worked with the Council of Europe in the field of youth with a particular interest in the participation and leadership.

She has worked extensively in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union to develop voluntary organisations as well as developed partnerships with other world regions including the Arab world. Heather is also a board member of Social Services Europe and the International Society for Research in Diaconia and Christian Social Practice.



Michel Barnier

Commissioner for Internal Market and Services

Michel Barnier is the European Commissioner for Internal Market and Services. He was appointed to the position in February 2010. Mr Barnier holds a Diploma from the Paris College of Business and an ESCP Diploma. In 1973, He began his political career as a Regional Councillor for Savoie in France's Bourg-Saint-Maurice District. During the 90s, he served as France's Minister for the Environment and Minister of European Affairs before becoming European Commissioner in charge of Regional Policy and the Reform of European Institutions in 1999. He has since served as France's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and between June 2009 and February 2010, Mr Barnier represented France as a Member of the European Parliament and President of the French delegation of the European People's Party (EPP). Since 2006, Mr Barnier has acted as Vice President of the European People's Party and Political Advisor to the UMP (Union pour un Mouvement Populaire).



Algimanta Pabedinskiene

Lithuanian Minister of Social security and labour

Algimanta Pabedinskiene is the Minister of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania.

In 1988, Ms Pabedinskiene graduated from Vilnius Engineering Construction Institute with a Master's Degree in Construction Engineering. She later also gained a Master's Degree in Management and Business Administration from Kaunas Technology. In 1991, she founded A. Pabedinskiene Fine Crafts Studio and went on to become the Director of the family company 'Selema'. Ms Pabedinskiene taught economics at secondary school level and lectured at college level (Marijampolė College). Between 2007 and 2012, she was Director of the Marijampolė Branch of the Kaunas Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts, during which time she also member of many related commissions and working groups.

In December 2012, Ms Pabedinskiene was appointed Lithuanian Minister for Social Security and Labour.



Lieve Fransen

Director for Social Policies and Europe 2020, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Lieve Fransen is Director for Social Policies and Europe 2020 in Directorate-General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission.

Dr. Fransen is Medical Doctor with a PhD on Social Policies. She has worked as Public Health Advisor to the Ministry of Health, Mozambique and as Director of a research programme on sexual and reproductive health in Kenya. She was the founder and Director of the AIDS Task Force of the European Commission from 1987-1993.

Dr. Fransen was also the Head of Human Development, Social Cohesion and Employment Unit for the European Commission's Directorate-General Development, and was the Vice-Chair of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM). Before moving to her current DG, Dr. Fransen was the Director in charge of Commission Representations in Directorate-General Communication. Since mid-November 2011, Dr. Fransen has been responsible for promoting social justice and the values of solidarity in the context of Europe 2020 Strategy.



Martin Schulz

President of the European Parliament

Martin Schulz has been a member of the European Parliament since 1994, and served as its President since January 2012.

Prior to his arrival in Brussels, Mr Schulz ran a successful bookshop in Würselen, Germany. There, he was elected as the youngest mayor of North Rhine-Westphalia, a post he held for 11 years. Since entering the European Parliament in 1994, Mr Schulz has served in a number of committees, first serving on the sub-committee on Human Rights and then on the Committee on Civil Liberties and Home Affairs. He led the SPD MEPs from 2000 and was subsequently elected Vice-Chair of the Socialist MEPs.

In 2004 he was elected group leader of the Socialists and Democrats, the second largest group in the European Parliament. On 17 January 2012, Mr Schulz was elected President of the European Parliament for a mandate of two and half years with 387 votes.



Sérgio Aires

President of the European Anti-Poverty Network

Sérgio Aires was elected President of the European Anti-Poverty Network in June 2012. Established in 1990, EAPN is the largest European network of anti-poverty groups (NGOs, grassroots groups and European organisations) active in the fight against poverty and social exclusion. Mr Aires, a sociologist by profession, has been an activist in EAPN since 1994 and is also a Director of the Lisbon Observatory on Poverty and Social Exclusion.



Koos Richelle

Director General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Koos Richelle is the Director General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion at the European Commission, a position he has held since January 2011.

Mr Richelle graduated in Dutch Constitutional and Public Law from the Erasmus University of Rotterdam in 1972. He started his career with the Government of the Netherlands where he worked for the Ministry of Education and Sciences. He was appointed the Director General of the Ministry of Welfare and Health in 1987. In 1995, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Director-General for International Cooperation.

Between 2000 and 2001, Mr. Richelle served in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour as the Project Director-General for the Change Management in the field of Social Security. He started working with the European Commission in 2001, as Director General of DG Development. Mr Richelle took up his current position in 2011.



Ahmed Aboutaleb



Simone Beissel



Enrico Giovannini

Italian Minister for Employment and Social Policies

Enrico Giovannini is the Italian Minister for Employment and Social Policies and a Professor in Economic Statistics.

Mr Giovannini graduated with a degree in Economics from La Sapienza, University of Rome in 1981. He continued his studies with Econometric Analysis at Institute of Economic Policy before joining the National Institute of Statistics. In 1989, he became Research Director at the National Institute for Short Term Economic Analysis, conducting monetary and financial analyses.

Mr Giovannini later moved on to become Head of the National Accounting and Economic Analysis Department at the National Institute of Statistics. In 1996, he became Central Director at Statistics on Institutions and Enterprises before being appointed Director and Chief Statistician at the Statistics Directorate of OECD in 2001.

Mr Giovannini is the President of the Italian Statistical Institute and a member of numerous national and international committees.



Ilze Viņķele

Latvian Minister for Social Affairs

Ilze Viņķele is the Latvian Minister for Social Affairs.

Ms Viņķele holds a Master's Degree in Public Health from Riga Stradins' University and is currently pursuing Doctoral Studies in Policy Science. She began her career as a journalist with the magazine Sveiks un Vesels and also has experience as a social worker. She entered the political scene working as advisor to the Minister of Environment in Latvia before becoming an MEP assistant in the European Parliament. Ms Viņķele later worked as a Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Special Affairs of Implementation of EU Funds and to the Minister of Finance. She was elected to the Latvian Parliament for the first time in September 2010, and re-elected in September 2011. She is a member of the union of political parties Vienotība.



Aart De Geus

Chairman and CEO, Bertelsmann Stiftung

Aart De Geus is Chairman and CEO of Bertelsmann Stiftung. He holds an M.A. of Laws from the Erasmus University, Rotterdam and conducted post-graduate studies in Labour Law at Nijmegen University. Between 1993 and 1998, he was Vice-chairman of the Executive Board for the Dutch National Federation of Christian Trade Unions. He then became Partner at Boer & Croon Strategic Consultancy in Amsterdam before being appointed Minister of Social Affairs and Employment in the Netherlands, a post which he occupied for five years. He also served as Deputy Secretary General of the OECD for four years between 2007 and 2011. A member of the Bertelsmann Stiftung Executive Board since September 2011, Mr De Geus became Chairman and CEO of the foundation in August 2012.



Aidan Culhane

*Special adviser to Jan O’Sullivan TD,
Minister for Housing and Planning*

Aidan Culhane is special adviser to Jan O’Sullivan TD, Minister for Housing and Planning, who convened the Roundtable of Homelessness Ministers in Leuven in March of this year. First elected to local government in Dublin in 1999, he served variously as chair of the Housing and Planning Strategic Policy Committees and as leader of the Labour council group, before leaving to take up his present role. He holds a Master’s degree in Regional and Urban Planning.



Alejandro Cercas

Member of the European Parliament

Spanish MEP Alejandro Cercas has served in the Parliament since 1999 with the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D). He is a member and S&D coordinator of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, a member of the Delegation for relations with Canada, and a substitute on the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the Delegation for relations with the Korean Peninsula.

A law graduate, Mr. Cercas previously worked as a civil servant in the higher technical section of the Social Security Department in Spain. He was a Member of the Young Socialists Executive Committee before becoming a Member of the PSOE Federal Committee, where he served for over 20 years and worked as Area secretary for a time. He was later a Member of the Congress of Deputies for Madrid and the Congress of Deputies for Cáceres. During his time in the Congress of Deputies, Mr Cercas was Chairman of the Committee on Social Policy and Employment and spokesman on Social Affairs.



Anna Ludwinek

Research Manager

Anna Ludwinek is a Research Manager and joined the Living Conditions and Quality of Life Unit at Eurofound as a research officer in May 2008. Since joining, Ms Ludwinek has worked primarily on issues related to youth: active inclusion of young people with health problems or disabilities as well as topics around migration and integration. Her current work and interest include labour transition, social inclusion of young people and disadvantaged groups. In the area of migration and integration she is investigating the links and tensions between migration, labour and integration policies, attitudes towards migrants, and the social and employment implications of intra-EU mobility. Ms Ludwinek is a member of the Steering Committee of the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council in Ireland and is responsible for preparing the local Integration and Diversity Programmes. She is also a Polish correspondent for the European Industrial Relations monthly magazine reporting on Polish developments regarding social and employment policy. Ms Ludwinek is currently completing a Master's degree in Social Applied Research at Trinity College, Dublin.



Barbara Helfferich

Director of the European Anti-Poverty Network

Barbara Helfferich has more than 20 years of experience in European policy making. She has worked in the non-governmental sector as well as in the European Commission. As Secretary-General of the European Women's Lobby she successfully established one of the biggest and most influential European NGOs in Brussels. In 1999, the European Commission recruited her as a member of the cabinet of the European Social Affairs Commissioner, a post which she held for five years until she was appointed European spokesperson for the environment. In August 2013 she was appointed Director of the European Anti-Poverty Network. She holds a PhD in political science from Columbia University as well as a Master's degree in journalism and international communications.



Bea Cantillon

Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy at the University of Antwerp

Bea Cantillon is Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy at the University of Antwerp. Among many diverse other roles, she is also Secretary- General of the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security, Coordinator of the FP7-funded Improve project, President of the Belgian child benefit administration and member of the Royal Academy of Sciences. Previously, Bea Cantillon also served as a Belgian Senator (1995–99), Chair of the General Assembly UFSIA (2002–03) and Vice-President of the University of Antwerp (2004–08). Her research focuses on a wide range of issues relating to poverty, social policy, social security, the welfare state and gender.



Caroline Costongs

Deputy Director at EuroHealthNet

Caroline Costongs is Deputy Director at EuroHealthNet, a European Partnership for Improving Health, Equity and Wellbeing. Caroline represents EuroHealthNet on the EU Expert Group on Health Inequalities and Social Determinants and is a board member of APHEA (public health accreditation). Caroline has an MSc in Public Health from the University of Maastricht. She has been working in public health for 20 years, especially in the field of health inequalities, health and social inclusion policies in the EU, healthy ageing, health promotion, sustainable development & health and capacity building. Before EuroHealthNet, she worked with the Netherlands Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation (NOC*NSF) where she coordinated a national campaign on physical activity promotion for young people. Caroline also worked at Liverpool John Moores University where she did research on healthy public policies in cities. Before that, she was active at the national Capacity Building Institute of the Honduras Ministry of Education.



Cristina Iannelli

Senior Lecturer in Quantitative Methods

Dr Iannelli is a Senior Lecturer in Quantitative Methods at the Moray House School of Education and co-Director of the ESRC-funded centre AQMeN (Applied Quantitative Methods Network) at the University of Edinburgh. She is currently leading the AQMeN research strand 'Education and Social Stratification' which aims to provide a better understanding of the mechanisms through which social class differences in tertiary education affect individuals' labour market outcomes. Her main research interests are: social inequalities in education, social mobility, youth transitions, cross-country comparative analysis and quantitative data analysis. Previously she held a three-year ESRC fellowship on The Role of Educational Structure and Content in the Process of Social Mobility and was the Principal Investigator in the ESRC project Education and Social Mobility in Scotland in the 20th Century.



Csaba ÖRY

Member of the Group of the European People's Party

Mr Csaba ÖRY MEP is a member of the Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats), the EMPL Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, the DASE Delegation for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). He is Head of the Labour Affairs and Employment Workshop, FIDESZ party (since 1996), and was a Member of the Budapest Steering Committee of FIDESZ (1998–2004) and Member of National Steering Committee of FIDESZ (2005–09). He was also a Member of the Hungarian Parliament (1998–04), Vice-Chairman of the Employment and Social Committee (1998; 2002–04), and Chairman of the Hungarian-Vietnamese-Cambodian-Laotian Section, IPU (Inter-Parliamentary Union) (2002–04). Roles with the Government of Hungary also include: Political State Secretary, Ministry of Social and Family Affairs (1998– 2000), Political State Secretary, Prime Minister's Office (2000–02), Representative of the Hungarian Government to the ILO (1998–2002), and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Affairs, Slovak-Hungarian Joint Committee (1998– 2002). His European Parliament roles includes: observer (2003–04); Member (since 2004); EPP-ED Coordinator and Vice-Coordinator, Committee on Employment and Social Affairs; and Spokesman, EPP-ED Workers Group (2004–10).



Emer Costello

Member of the European Parliament

Emer Costello is the Labour Party MEP for Dublin and a member of the Socialists and Democrats Group in the European Parliament. She is a member of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee, the Development Committee and the Special Committee on Organised Crime, and is Chair of the Parliament's Delegation for Relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council. She is the Parliament's Rapporteur for the new €3.5 billion 'Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived' (2014–20). She was a member of Dublin City Council from 2003 until early 2012 and served as Lord Mayor of Dublin between 2009 and 2010, during which time she established the Lord Mayor's Commission on Employment. She served as Deputy-Lord Mayor between 2008 and 2009. She is also a past member of the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. She has served on a number of national and local boards in Ireland on a variety of issues covering community involvement, education, health, tourism and justice.



Honoratte Muhanzi Kashale

Organisational consultant in Welfare Alliance/EAPN Norway

Organisational consultant in Welfare Alliance/EAPN Norway with primary responsibility for:

- Managing the network internationally by working through the International Committee.
- Coordinating the project on training and recruiting user representatives to the users committees for the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Service (NAV). The goal is to promote participation in the planning, implementation and evaluation of welfare service

Sosial entreprenør in BIBI AMKA: an organisation that works primarily with empowering immigrant families so they can live a dignified life, in both Norway and other parts of the world.

I graduated in Political and Administrative Sciences and have an interest in justice, solidarity and care. I give lectures on minority issues and family involvement.

The fact that I fled to Norway has been and remains a challenging and exciting journey, 'I hope that such journeys will result in a prosperous future for the children and families affected.



James Higgins

Responsible for employment and social affairs at the European Youth Forum

James Higgins is the person responsible for employment and social affairs at the European Youth Forum, which is the platform of youth organisations in Europe. He has been working at the Youth Forum since 2009 and was previously the European Institutions Coordinator at Amnesty International's EU Office. Originally from Ireland, James is a graduate of Queen's University Belfast and has a Master's degree in Political Communication from the University of Ulster. In his spare time, James is also a committed activist for the social inclusion of young people and has written extensively on the issue

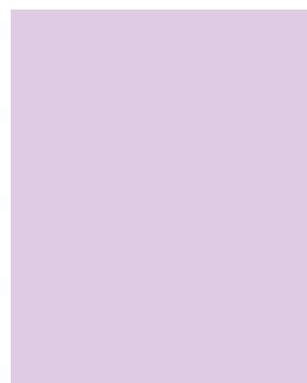


Jan Pörksen

State Secretary at the Ministry of Labour, Social and Family Affairs and Integration in the City of Hamburg

Jan Pörksen is State Secretary at the Ministry of Labour, Social and Family Affairs and Integration in the City of Hamburg, a position he has occupied since March 2011.

Mr Pörksen studied law in Freiburg and Genf before becoming a trainee lawyer in Hamburg. In 1998, he became Assistant to the Mayor of the City of Hamburg and later moved on to become Head of the European Office of the State Chancellery. Between 2002 and 2004, he served as Head of Unit for Planning and Controlling in the Office for Health and Consumer Protection and then Head of Unit for Administration, responsible for budget in the Office for Health and Consumer Protection. In 2006, Mr Pörksen became the Director for Budget in Bremen, a position which he occupied for five years before returning to Hamburg to take up his current role as State Secretary at the Ministry of Labour, Social and Family Affairs and Integration.



Jane Newman

International Director, Social Finance UK

Social Finance works to identify ways of improving the access to capital for those looking to drive social change. In 2010 Social Finance UK launched the world's first Social Impact Bond, targeted at reducing reoffending among ex-offenders leaving Peterborough prison in the UK. It has developed the model extensively since then, both within the UK and in support of initiatives in other jurisdictions. Jane leads the international work of Social Finance, developing a network of impact investment intermediaries who seek to develop SIBs. She works closely with intermediaries in Europe, North America and Australia. Jane was previously a corporate partner at a leading international law firm. She joined Social Finance from The Social Investment Business, the UK's largest social investor.



Jérôme Vignon

Honorary Director General at the European Commission

Jérôme Vignon, Honorary Director General at the European Commission, has spent, as a French civil servant, half of his professional career in the French Ministry of Finance and the second half in the European Commission where he started in 1985 as a member of President Delors cabinet. He then headed the 'Forward studies unit' in the Commission until 1998 with a particular focus on the structural policies of the EU, was in charge of the Commission's White Paper on European governance (2001) and finally appointed as the Director for social protection and inclusion at DG EMPL until 2009. Back in Paris, he was appointed by the French Government in 2010 to chair the ONPES (national observatory of poverty and social inclusion), an independent tripartite body involving academics in the social field, members of civil society and representatives from social and economic administrations.

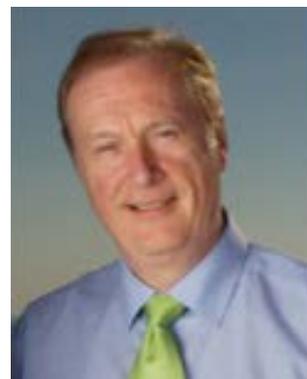


John Halloran

Chief Executive of the European Social Network (ESN)

John Halloran is the Chief Executive of the European Social Network (ESN), which represents directors of public social care and health services in national, regional and local government, as well as other research and development, inspection and provider organisations in 32 countries. The aim of the network is to promote social justice and inclusion through the delivery of quality social services in partnership with service users and other stakeholders. ESN is directly supported by the European Commission and has Contributory Status with the Council of Europe.

Mr Halloran studied at Strasbourg, Lancaster and Manchester Universities, and has a degree in social work and an international MBA from Henley Business School. He has previously worked as a senior manager of public welfare services in the UK, as a management consultant for the UK government and intergovernmental agencies, as a social worker in the third sector in France and as a volunteer teacher in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Mr Halloran has written extensively on social service issues



José Manuel Fresno

Expert in European social policies and human rights

José Manuel Fresno is an expert in European social policies and human rights. He is currently Director of Fresno, a consultancy firm specialised in social policies, as well as founder and director of Fundación Secretariado Gitano, the main foundation in Spain working for the social inclusion of the Roma.

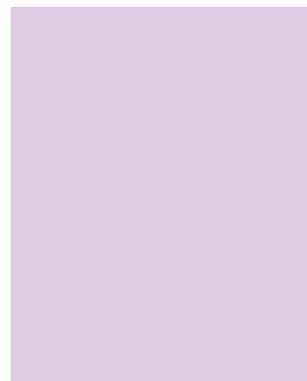
Mr Fresno has been involved in various projects with different Directorates-Generals of the European Commission and the Council of Europe on issues related to the EU 2020 Strategy, cohesion and social policies and structural and investment funds among others. Previously, he was Chairman of the Council for the Promotion of Equal Treatment and the Prevention of Discrimination on the basis of Racial or Ethnic Origin (2009-2013) and member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe - ECRI (2004-2007). Since June 2013, he has served as a member of the Scientific Committee of the Fundamental Rights Agency of the EU in June 2013.



Joy Hadden

Owner of consultancy house

Joy Hadden is an exceptional leader, with a passion for creating positive economic, environmental, educational, social and cultural sustainable change through regeneration and good relations. Joy has successfully led the change management process of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council from a Non-Departmental Public Body to a successful Social Enterprise and in 2013 established her own consultancy house. She has over 15 years of experience in designing and delivering large-scale physical and social inclusion regeneration programmes focusing on positive sustainable economic, environmental, educational, early years, youth, health, and social and cultural change. Joy has directly secured over £15m of programme funding via Local & Regional Government Funding, the EU Structural Funds Rural Development Programme, EU Northern Periphery Programme, EU Peace III, International Fund for Ireland, Government Anti-Poverty Programme, Big Lottery, Heritage Lottery and Trusts to advance regeneration activities with a thematic, regional and international focus. She has disbursed £50m of grants to over 500 community organisations to advance local regeneration and good relations activities.



Karima Delli

Member of the European Parliament

Former Federal Secretary of the Young Greens (2007–08), she was elected June 7, 2009, fourth on the list of Europe Ecologie led by Daniel Cohn-Bendit and Eva Joly in Ile-de-France. Born in 1979, she is the second youngest French member of the European Parliament. She is a member of the Collective Black Thursday, denouncing youth difficulties to find housing and real estate speculation, and co-founder of the Collective Save the rich! which promotes the establishment of a European maximum income. In the European Parliament, she sits on the committees Employment and Social Affairs, and Regional Development. She is also Vice-President of the Intergroup URBAN, bringing together parliamentarians from across the political spectrum, whose purpose is to promote the issue of urban policy and housing in a horizontal and integrated European way. Last but not least, she is Vice-President of the Public Services Intergroup.



Karl Pichelmann

Senior Adviser in the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs

Karl Pichelmann has worked at the European Commission since 1998, and he currently holds the position of Senior Adviser in the Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs. He is also Professor Adjoint at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, Institut d'Études Européennes.

Mr Pichelmann earned his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Vienna in 1983. He has worked as a senior economist at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna. His research, analysis and contributions to policy formulation focus on globalisation and European economic and monetary integration, and on the impact of the financial crisis on labour markets and social models in Europe. In DG ECFIN, Mr Pichelmann takes a leading role in activities on growth and inequality, wage and productivity dynamics, or mobility and migration, among others. He is the person responsible in DG ECFIN for the Macroeconomic Dialogue, a high-level forum for the exchange of views between the European Commission, ECB, ECOFIN Council and the Social Partners.



Kenneth Nelson

Associate Professor at the Swedish Institute for Social Research

Kenneth Nelson is Associate Professor at the Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University. He has headed several research projects on social protection and poverty and has written extensively in comparative welfare state research



Kinga Göncz

Member of the European Parliament

Dr. Kinga Göncz is a member of the European Parliament representing Hungary within the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats. She is vice-chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, and substitute member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the Committee on Petitions. Dr. Göncz is also member of the Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo. Besides, she is vice-chair of the Disability Intergroup and the Aging and Intergenerational Solidarity Intergroup, and member of the Anti-racism and Diversity Intergroup and the LGBT Intergroup.

In Hungary, she served as Minister for Equal Opportunities and Minister of Youth, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. In 2006, Dr. Göncz became the female Minister of Foreign Affairs, a position which she occupied for three years. She is dedicated to making tangible progress in the lives of those stricken by poverty and social exclusion



Laura Gutiérrez

Senior Legal Advisor in retail banking, World Savings and Retail Banking Institute- European Savings and Retail Banking Group

Laura Gutiérrez currently holds the position of Senior Legal Advisor in Retail Banking within the World Savings and Retail Banking Institute-European Savings and Retail Banking Group. She leads and coordinates the Corporate Social Responsibility Committee within this organisation. Ms Gutiérrez is active in a number of areas, including financial inclusion, financial education, microfinance and environmental related topics. Before joining the WSBI-ESBG in February 2010, Ms Gutiérrez gained experience in the financial services sector working for the European Federation of Insurance Intermediaries in Brussels. Prior to this experience she worked in law firms in Germany and Spain. Ms Gutiérrez holds a Master in Laws from the University of Humboldt (Berlin) in International Public Law with a focus on Human Rights, and a law and business degree from the University of Deusto (Bilbao).



Maria Magnusson

Project leader of community-based intervention to promote health

Maria Magnusson has worked with issues concerning children, food and health since 1980; as a cook at a day-care centre, as matron of a school canteen and as a dietician and nurse. Her research interest is focused on mechanisms regarding the health gap, and is aimed at finding ways to narrow it. In 2011 she defended her thesis 'Prevention of childhood obesity in the context of socioeconomic status and migration'. Maria is project leader of community-based intervention to promote health; it is led by the principles of participatory research (Health Equilibrium Initiative). She is also a lecturer at the Public Health Department at the University of Gothenburg.



Marta Korintus

Senior Adviser and Childcare Expert at the General Directorate of Social Affairs and Child Protection in Hungary

Marta Korintus is a Senior Adviser and Childcare Expert at the General Directorate of Social Affairs and Child Protection in Hungary. She has been involved in research and development work related to services for children under the age of 3 for more than 30 years. Her international work experience includes a number of bilateral cross-national projects, cross-national research, and participation in international projects and activities, including the OECD Thematic Review of Early Childhood Education and Care, Care Work in Europe (FP5), and YIPPEE (FP7). Marta has been a member of the European Social Network for a number of years and presented at the ESN 2011 seminar in Paris on how ECEC and specialist children's services work together.



Márton Rövid

Research and advocacy officer

Márton Rövid is a research and advocacy officer at the Decade of Roma Inclusion Secretariat Foundation. Amongst other tasks, he coordinates the civil society monitoring of the implementation of National Roma Integration Strategies (www.romadecade.org/civilsocietymonitoring). In 2012 he earned a PhD in political science at the Central European University. In the course of his doctoral research, he studied cosmopolitan theories and the notion of transcendence of national citizenship in the light of the case of Roma, an allegedly non-territorial nation. His research interests include: theories of cosmopolitan democracy, global civil society, transnational social movements, international politics of multiculturalism and the Romani movement.



Maureen O'Neill

Member of the European Economic and Social Committee in UK

Maureen O'Neill is a UK Member of the European Economic and Social Committee and is currently the President of the Social Affairs Section. During the EU Year on Poverty and Social Exclusion she led the work of the EESC and was rapporteur for the opinion on the 'Platform against Poverty'. She has worked in the voluntary sector for over 30 years in organisations concerned with older people, mental health, homelessness and community development.



Michael F. Förster

Senior policy analyst at the OECD Social Policy Division

Michael F. Förster is a senior policy analyst at the OECD Social Policy Division. He has been involved in successive OECD work on income distribution and poverty since the mid-1990s. He is co-author of 'Growing Unequal?' (OECD 2008) and lead author of 'Divided We Stand' (OECD 2011, www.oecd.org/els/social/inequality) and is currently directing several follow-up projects to these studies. Author of various journal articles, research papers and book contributions, Mr Förster is an Austrian citizen and holds a PhD from the University of Liège, Belgium.



Nick O'Dohohoe

Chief Executive Officer, Big Society Capital

Nick O'Donohoe is Chief Executive Officer of Big Society Capital. BSC was established in 2012 by the UK Government as the world's first social wholesaler. It is capitalised with £600m from dormant bank accounts and from the four largest UK banks. Before helping to set up Big Society Capital, Nick was at JP Morgan, latterly as Global Head of Research. He was a Member of the Management Committee of the Investment Bank and the Executive Committee of JP Morgan Chase, as well as the senior sponsor for JP Morgan's Social Finance Unit. Nick co-authored 'Impact Investments: An Emerging Asset Class' published by JP Morgan and the Rockefeller Foundation in November 2010. Prior to JP Morgan he worked at Goldman Sachs. He is a board member of the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN), Chairman of the WEF Social Innovation Council and Chairman of the G8 UK Social Investment Advisory Group. He has an MBA from the Wharton School and a BA in Mathematical Economics and Statistics from Trinity College Dublin.



Nikola Buković

Croatian Youth Network

Nikola Buković has worked with the Croatian Youth Network since 2009. He focuses on advocacy, encompassing both youth policy and social policy, with strong emphasis on youth (un)employment.

Mr. Buković holds an MA in Political Science from the Faculty of Political Science in Zagreb. His master thesis, 'Croatian Youth Policy – the concept, the context, the limits' was published in the scientific journal *Politička misao*. Through the course of his work with the Croatian Youth Network, he has co-authored several publications, including two recent papers: "Who's afraid of the Big Bad Crisis? ", focusing on youth perspective in the face of economic downturn; and "Destination uncertain? Trends, perspectives and challenges in strengthening vocational education for social inclusion and social cohesion". He has also participated in several working groups charged with drafting different national policy documents, and is currently a member of the National Council for Developing Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan and Working Group for National Youth Programme 2014 – 2017.



Olivier Thévenon

Researcher at INED

Olivier Thévenon is a researcher at INED (French Institute for Demographic Research). His research interests cover family and employment policies, in relation to family, fertility, labour market and child outcomes. He has been working for the OECD (social policy division), contributing to the development of the OECD Family Database, and to the following OECD publications: *Babies and Bosses*, *Doing Better for Families*, *Closing the Gender Gap*. Before joining INED, he was project manager at the research department of the French Ministry of Social Affairs, supervising programmes on the comparison of employment and social protection systems.

His publications are available on his personal website: <http://olivierthevenon.site.ined.fr/en/>



Pavlos N. Theodorakis

CEO and President of the Athens Psychiatric Hospital

Pavlos N. Theodorakis, MD, MSc, DipLSHTM, PhD studied Health Policy, Planning and Financing at the London School of Economics, where he also worked as a research associate. He also worked as a clinical and research fellow at the Medical School of the University of Linköping in Sweden in the evaluation of primary health care services in the Balkans. He further worked in primary care projects in Abkhazia-Georgia, and Pogradec-Albania during the Kosovo war. After closing down the first psychiatric asylum in Greece as a CEO in 2006, he became involved in several reform initiatives in primary health care and mental health sectors in Greece. He is currently the WHO National Counterpart for Greece in mental health issues and President of the National Primary Health Care Committee, working closely with the EU Task Force for Greece and international experts for implementation of the primary care sector reforms in Greece. He was recently appointed CEO and President of the Athens Psychiatric Hospital. He has more than 50 publications on health policy, public health and epidemiology and has lectured at the Universities of Ioannina, Crete and Athens Greece, as well as Linköping, Sweden and the Open University of Cyprus.



Per K. Larsen

National Secretary at EAPN.DK

Per K. Larsen, educated as a psychologist at Copenhagen University specialising in labour psychology and organisational development, worked as a teacher at Copenhagen University 1969–74, researcher at SFI (National Research Centre for Welfare) 1975–77, Head of Office at the National Board of Social Welfare 1978–90, and director in voluntary organisations and private enterprises 1990–2005. Since 1980 he has been a project manager and evaluator at different times for transnational EU projects. He is now the National Secretary at EAPN.DK and project manager for the European Minimum Income Network in Denmark. He is also the Chairman of the Board at the Centre for Brain Damage, Copenhagen University, a member of the Board of an NGO for homeless people in greater Copenhagen, and City Council member in his hometown.



Rumyan Russinov

Leading advocate of equality policies for Roma in Europe

Rumyan Russinov is a leading advocate of equality policies for Roma in Europe. In 1997 he initiated and led a national campaign in Bulgaria to promote the adoption of government policies for integration of Roma in society. The campaign has resulted in the adoption of the governmental Framework Programme for Equal Integration of Roma in Bulgarian Society — a policy document developed and widely supported by Roma in Bulgaria — which provided a basis for policies on Roma of several governments in the following years. As Director of the Roma Participation Programme at the Open Society Institute, Budapest, he initiated and supported Roma-led actions for school desegregation in countries of Central and Eastern Europe. In the period 2005–09, Rumyan Russinov served as Deputy Director of the Budapest-based Roma Education Fund where he worked for the development of institutional and financial frameworks for scaling up grassroots school desegregation actions into national policies and for transferring positive practices for integration of Roma in mainstream education across European countries.

MA in Political Science and MA in Economics.



Rute Azinheiro Guerra

Head of Unit for Forecasting and Politics at the Ministry for Solidarity, Employment and Social Security

Sociologist and, since 2006, Head of Unit for Forecasting and Politics (Cabinet for Strategy and Planning) at the Ministry for Solidarity, Employment and Social Security. She has participated in projects on forecasting the sustainability of the social security system and monitoring and evaluating social policies. She has also participated in the development and monitoring of some strategic national programmes, such as the National Action Plan for Employment, Social Protection and Social Inclusion as well as the National Social Report. She has been a member of the Indicators' Sub- Group of the Social Protection Committee since 2006 and of SPC-WG-AGE. She has also been involved in several working groups at national level concerning the areas of employment, vocational training and social protection.



Ruth Owen Biography

Policy Coordinator at FEANTSA

Ruth Owen is Policy Coordinator at FEANTSA (European Federation of National Associations Working with the Homeless). She works on a broad range of issues including: housing; monitoring and reporting on national homelessness policies; social innovation; and transnational exchange between national/regional ministries responsible. She holds a BA in Geography from University College London. Ruth is also an alumna of the UK TeachFirst programme, which addresses educational disadvantage by recruiting high-performing graduates as teachers and leaders in challenging schools



Sally Morris

Executive Director Young People & Families, Catch22

Sally leads the delivery of a range of early intervention and targeted support services that are focused on the needs of vulnerable young people and families. She is also responsible for NCS, and Community Space Challenge, the national programmes delivered by Catch22, as well as NCAS and Realising Ambition, two major research and policy initiatives.

Previously, Sally was Assistant Director of Strategy and Commissioning for children and family services at Kent and Medway Council, and she has over 20 years' experience of managing children and family social care contracts, service improvement and partnerships within local government. She began her career in social research, and worked for a variety of organisations including the London Voluntary Service Council, ChildLine and a higher education provider.

Sally has a strong commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable young people through evidence-based practice, and will ensure that young people and their emerging needs remain the focus of Catch22's work in this area.



Silvia Costa

Member of the European Parliament

Silvia Costa is a Member of the European Parliament and involved on the Committees: Culture and Education, Women's Rights and Gender Equality and Civil Liberties. She is the Rapporteur for the European Parliament for the Creative Europe Programme 2014–20. She was previously a Lazio Regional Councillor responsible for education, educational rights and training (2005–09), member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies for three parliamentary terms and Member of the Committees on internal affairs, on culture, science and education and on general guidance and monitoring of radio and television services (1985–1993). She was also State Secretary at the Ministry for universities, scientific research and technology (1993–1994) and Chair of the European advisory committee on equal opportunities during the 1996 Italian Presidency of the EU and head of the EU delegation to the annual session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (1996). She is co-founder of the 'Telefono Azzurro' NGO for missing children, a member of the board of management of the Donne in Musica Foundation (2002–05) and President of the Academy of Fine Arts, Rome (1995–2005).



Simon Rowell

Strategy and Market Development Director

Simon Rowell, Strategy and Market Development Director, began his career as a corporate lawyer for Linklaters LLP advising investors and companies on their acquisitions, capital raising, joint ventures and restructuring in the UK, Europe and Asia. Since then he has worked on strategic projects for the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games and on education reform for the Prime Minister's Department in Australia. He holds a Master's in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School and degrees in Finance and Law from the University of Queensland.



Stanislav Daniel

Studies Officer of the Roma Education Fund

Stanislav Daniel is the Studies Officer of the Roma Education Fund. Before his assignment at the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights as an Officer on Roma and Sinti Issues, he worked for the European Roma Rights Centre as a research officer with a geographic focus on the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Russia. In his professional career he has individually conducted several studies, managed teams of researchers and otherwise contributed to research projects aimed primarily at education, but also free movement, state response to anti-Roma violence, and implementation and impact of activities, policies and measures aimed at Roma inclusion in the EU. He also has experience in community development and capacity-building with municipal Roma politicians and Roma youth. He holds a degree in social work in Roma communities from the University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra, Slovakia.



Teresa Cavero

Head of Research at Oxfam Intermon in Spain

Teresa Cavero is Head of Research at Oxfam Intermon in Spain and Senior Policy Researcher of Oxfam International. She holds a Master's degree in Public Administration in International Development from the Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University, and in Agricultural Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Madrid, Spain.

Relevant publications: 'A Cautionary Tale: The true cost of austerity in Europe' (co-author of the main paper, and author of two of the 12 case studies, Oxfam, September 2013), 'Crisis, inequality and poverty' (Intermon Oxfam, December 2012), 'Double-edged prices' (Oxfam, October 2008), 'CAP Reform in the EU context: options for achieving change' (Cambridge, 2009), 'Visión de negocio' (Intermon Oxfam, 2007).



Thomas DOMINIQUE

Head of Cabinet for the Ministry of social security in Luxembourg

Thomas Dominique currently serves as the Head of Cabinet for the Ministry of social security in Luxembourg.

Chair of the Social Protection Committee (SPC) of the European Commission (EC).

Member of the Ageing working group (AWG) of the Economic Policy Committee (EPC) of the EC.

Member of the interministerial working group on public finances and the European Semester.

Member of the interministerial working group on the national reform program.

Member of the interministerial working group on social inclusion.

Member of the interministerial working group on sustainable development.

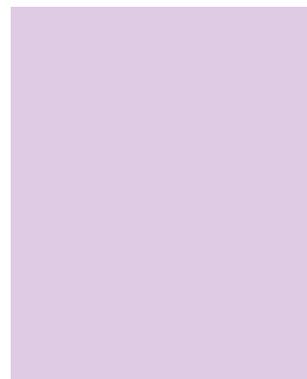
Statistics, actuarial studies and social programming – Former Head of division of the General Inspectorate of Social Security (IGSS).

Social programming in the area of social protection and public finances.

Socio-economic projections in the context of the financial sustainability of social security schemes.

Development of the Social budget simulating software for Luxembourg implemented in order to perform the financial projections in the area of social protection.

Development of the Social Protection database for Luxembourg.



Ugo Trivellato

Professor of Economic Statistics at the University of Padova

Ugo Trivellato is Emeritus Professor of Economic Statistics at the University of Padova, where he was Full Professor from 1980 to 2010, and senior research fellow at IRVAPP (Research Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies). He is affiliated to CESifo and IZA. Currently, he is a member of the Istat Scientific Commission on the measurement of well-being, of the Working Group set up by the Ministry for Employment and Social Affairs on Minimum Income, and of the Scientific Advisory Board of the project 'Data without Boundaries (FP7-13)'. His main research interests are programme evaluation, labour economics, welfare and poverty. In 2005 he was awarded the 'Ezio Tarantelli Prize' in labour economics.



Violetta Zentai

Senior project manager of the Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma programme

Violetta Zentai is senior project manager of the Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma programme of the Open Society Foundations. She is contributing to the programme's policy development and advocacy work. She is also director of the Centre for Policy Studies at the Central European University (CEU). She has coordinated comparative European research projects (DIOSCURI, EDUMIGROM) and contributed to several others (QUING, NEUJOBS). Dr Zentai is also a faculty member of the CEU's Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology and Department of Public Policy. She has an MA from Corvinus University of Economics, Budapest and a PhD in Cultural Anthropology from Rutgers University, USA.



Volker Busch-Geertsema

Senior research fellow at the Association for Innovative Social Research and Social Planning (GISS, Bremen, Germany)

Dr Volker Busch-Geertsema is a senior research fellow at the Association for Innovative Social Research and Social Planning (GISS, Bremen, Germany). He has been a member of the European Observatory on Homelessness since 1995 and, since 2009, has been the Coordinator of the Observatory and a member of the editorial team of the European Journal of Homelessness. He has conducted a large number of extensive research projects on different aspects of homelessness in Germany and Europe. Between 2011 and 2013 he coordinated the 'Housing First Europe' project funded by the European Commission (PROGRESS programme). Currently he is conducting a large research project on prevention of homelessness in Germany's most populated regional state North Rhine-Westphalia as well as a number of evaluations of re-housing projects for homeless people, and provides advice and support for a regional governmental action programme to prevent and reduce homelessness.



WILLEM ADEMA

Senior Economist, Social Policy Division

OECD Directorate for Employment, Labour & Social Affairs

Willem Adema is a Senior Economist in the OECD Social Policy Division. Willem leads a team of analysts of Family and Children policies which prepared *Doing Better for Families* and continues to update the online OECD Family database, and its Child well-being module. He is responsible for the OECD Social Expenditure database which was most recently updated in July 2013. Willem leads the new OECD project on affordable and social housing.

Willem has written extensively on a wide range of social and family policy issues and was Editor of the first issue of *Society at a Glance: OECD Social Indicators* in 2001. He was Project Manager and Editor of the OECD *Babies and Bosses* Reviews on the reconciliation of Work and Family Life and until early 2008 was Head of Asian Social and Health Outreach. He was responsible for the OECD Labour Market and Social Policy Reviews of Chile (2009), Israel (2010 and 2013) and Russia (2011) and, working with colleagues across the OECD, was project manager of the OECD Gender Initiative, preparing the OECD report *Closing the Gender Gap — Act Now* and the OECD Gender Data Portal. Willem graduated from Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, and holds a Doctorate from St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford.

