

Pierre-Yves Dermagne

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Economy and Employment of Belgium



Mr Dermagne is the mayor of Rochefort. He is a member of the Socialist party. He significantly contributes politically to the areas of economy, employment, and local governance in Belgium. During the Belgian Presidency he has been a vocal supporter of a strong and social Europe leading in particular to the signing of the Declaration of La Hulpe. He has a long political background in Belgian politics and studied Law, at the Catholic University of Louvain.

Nicolas Schmit

European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights



Nicolas Schmit took up office as European Commissioner responsible for Jobs and Social Rights in December 2019. Prior to this, he served as a Member of the European Parliament for the social-democratic Lëtzebuerger Sozialistesche Aarbechterpartei following his election in May 2019. From 2009 to 2018, he held the position of Minister for Labour and Employment in the Luxembourgish government. In 2004, he was appointed Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Immigration. Following a long career of public service, he took up

duty as Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the EU in 1998 for a six-year term. Nicolas Schmit holds a Doctorate in International Economic Relations and a Masters in French Literature from the University of Aix-Marseille.

Jeroen Lenaers

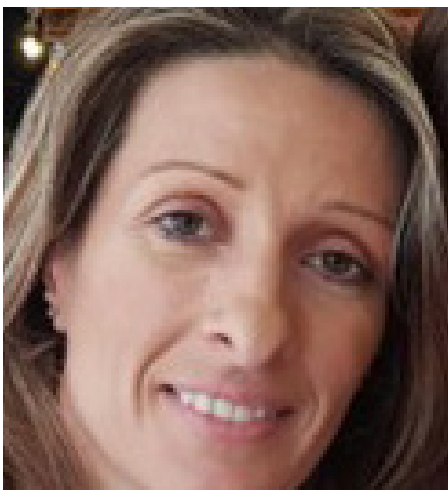
Member of the European Parliament from the Netherlands



Mr Lenaers is a Dutch Member of the European Parliament since 2014 and vice chair of the EPP-group. As a member of the Employment and Social Affairs committee, Mr Lenaers was a rapporteur on the creation of the European Labour Authority in 2018/2019. Besides his work in the EMPL committee, Mr Lenaers is EPP-coordinator in the Civil Liberties Justice and Home Affairs Committee. Until 2023, Mr Lenaers was chair of the Pegasus inquiry committee; looking into abusive spyware in the European Union. He studied European Studies at Maastricht University.

Eleni Alogogianni

Head of Electronic Governance Directorate, Hellenic Labour Inspectorate



Ms Alogogianni holds a degree in Informatics and a Master of Science in Advanced Computing from Imperial College London. With over 23 years of experience, she has spent 7 years in major IT companies and 16 years in the public sector at the Labour Inspectorate. She is currently completing her Ph.D. in Interpretable Machine Learning for Undeclared Work Prediction at the University of Piraeus' Department of Informatics.

Ada Huibregtse, Ph.D.

Chief Technical Advisor, International Labour Organisation and Employment of Belgium



Dr Huibregtse is the Team Leader managing the EU funded Employment and Social Affairs Platform in the Western Balkans. Previously she has had roles as the Team Lead and Director of Research for USAID in Bangladesh with ME&A, Inc. and Democracy International, and researcher in the University of New York in Tirana, Albania. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin.

Kristen Brink

Head of Division, Digitalisation and Data, Danish Working Environment Authority



Ms Brink is responsible for developing all IT-systems used in the Danish Working Environment Authority both for supporting the inspectors and for the use of internal registered data and external data from other authorities. She works with data for inspection management, information for companies, machine learning models for risk scoring and new projects trying to use generative AI. Ms Brink has 25 years of experience in working with data – data preparation, data reporting and making data valuable in a working environment context.

Kaire Saarep

Director General, Estonian Labour Inspectorate



Ms Saarep joined the Labour Inspectorate in 2016 and before her current position was leading work on the prevention department of the inspectorate. Ms Saarep graduated from the Tallinn University of Technology and has a master's degree in human resources and management.

Esther Lynch

General Secretary, European Trade Union

Previously, Ms Lynch was Deputy General Secretary at the ETUC from 2019 to 2022, following



four years as Confederal Secretary. Ms Lynch led on social dialogue, collective bargaining and wage policy, trade union rights, gender equality. She has extensive trade union experience at Irish, European and international levels, starting with her election as a shop steward in the 1980s. Before coming to the ETUC, she was the Legislation and Social Affairs Officer with the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU). As Deputy General Secretary and as Confederal Secretary she led successful actions aimed at improving workers and trade union rights in legislative initiatives such as the Directive on Adequate Minimum

Wages, the Transparent and Predicable Working Conditions Directive and the Whistleblowing Directive, she also ran a successful campaign that mobilised support for the European Pillar of Social Rights and the ETUC's 'Europe Needs a Pay Rise' campaign. A lifelong feminist, Esther is pushing for measures to end the undervaluing of work predominantly done by women.

Véronique Willems

Secretary General, SMEUnited



Ms Willems serves as Secretary General of SMEUnited, the association of Crafts and SMEs in Europe, as of 2017. SMEUnited stands for 65 SME organisations – national cross-sectoral and European sector federations – from over 30 European countries. With 25 years of experience in advocacy at local, regional, national and European level, Ms Willems builds on several years of counselling and mentoring SMEs and uses their everyday life as a basis to shape an SME-friendly business environment. Ms Willems holds a law degree and a master’s degree in commercial

Catherine Peyralbe

Vice President, Gartner Consulting



Mrs. Peyralbe is Gartner’s most senior expert of its Talent, Organisation, and People Transformation consulting practice. She is providing thought leadership and experience for the complex technology-enabled business transformations of commercial global organisations and Intra-Governmental Institutions. She studied Organisational Psychology, Marketing and Information Technology in France and in the US. She is currently leaving in Switzerland.

Spiros Protopsaltis

Governor and Chair of the Board of Directors of Public Employment Service of Greece (DYPA)



Dr Protopsaltis is the President of the Greek National Labour Force Skills Council and served as the First Vice-Chair of the European Network of Public Employment Services. Prior to his current role, he worked in the Obama Administration and the U.S. Congress on education and workforce development issues in various roles, including as Deputy Assistant Secretary at the US Department of Education, and was also an associate professor of education policy at George Mason University. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Policy from the University of Colorado, Denver.

Teresa Hornung

Deputy Director for European Affairs, Confederation of German Employers (BDA)



Ms Hornung joined BDA's EU affairs department in 2018. Since then, she is responsible for EU labour market, migration, and education & training policy as well as the future of work and digitalisation. BDA is the central business association organising the social and economic policy interests of the entire German economy and a member of BusinessEurope. Before joining BDA, Ms Hornung gained expertise in governance, public affairs, campaigning and project management from her work in German parliament,

NGO, consultancy and in media. She holds a BA in Communication and Media Studies and an MA in Political Science from Tel Aviv University.

Katrin Distler, Ph.D

Vice-President of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and Interregional Trade



Dr Distler is the ETUC representative at ELA's Working Group on Information 2020-2023 and has been a EURES adviser since 2004. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Freiburg.

Andriana Sukova

Deputy Director General, DG EMPL Environment

Ms Sukova is a Deputy Director-General in charge of Funds, fair transition and analysis in the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. She was acting Director-General for the first five months of 2024. Ms Sukova is an economist by education, with ample experience in the area of integration of Bulgaria into the European Union both in the Government



and non-governmental sector. After Bulgaria's accession to the EU, Ms Sukova joined the Cabinet of Commissioner for Consumer Protection Meglena Kuneva. In August 2010 she was appointed Director in DG EMPL. She was in charge of the European Social Fund policy and legislation preparation, negotiations on the regulatory framework for the 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 programming periods. She also monitored ESF implementation in 18 member states. In March 2018, Mrs Sukova was appointed the Deputy Director-General of DG Employment, in charge of all funds in this directorate general, the biggest still is the European Social fund. She is also in charge of the coordination of

social and economic policies in the EU in the framework of the European semester and the fairness of the twin green and digital transition.

