



Robert-Jan SMITS

<p>Nationality:</p>	<p>Dutch</p>
<p>Academic qualifications:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Degree from Utrecht University in the Netherlands ➤ Degree from l'Institut Universitaire d'Hautes Etudes Internationales in Switzerland ➤ Degree from the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy in the United States of America
<p>Professional experience in the European Institutions:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ From July 2010 - to date: Director-General of the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (RTD) ➤ From April 2010 to June 2010: Deputy Director-General at the Joint Research Center (JRC) responsible for Programmes and Stakeholder Relations, Resource Management and three Institutes, being the Institute for Energy, the Institute for Environment and Sustainability and the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies. ➤ From June 2005 to March 2010: Director for the European Research Area: Research Programmes and Capacity at DG Research (Joint Programming, coordination of national research programmes, cooperation with intergovernmental research organisations (EIROforum, EUREKA, COST), Research Infrastructures, Regions of Knowledge, Research Potential and the relations with the European Investment Bank (EIB)) ➤ From July 2002 to June 2005: Head of Unit 'Strengthening cooperation in Research and the European Scientific Base' at DG Research ➤ From January 2002 to July 2002: Interim Head of Unit of the Legal Unit at DG Research ➤ From January 1996 to July 2002: Head of Unit 'Research & SMEs' at DG Research ➤ From January 1993 to January 1996: Head of the IRDAC Secretariat at DG Research ➤ From January 1989 to December 1993: assistant to the Deputy Director-General at DG Research ➤ 1984 – 1985: Research assistant, European Parliament, Luxembourg
<p>Professional experience before joining the European Institutions:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1987 – 1989: Deputy Head, International Technology Policy, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands ➤ 1985 – 1987: Officer for International Trade Affaires, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands ➤ 1983 – 1984: Member of the staff of TUFTS University, European Centre, Talloires, France
<p>Other professional activities:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤
<p>Language Skills:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dutch (mother tongue) ➤ English ➤ German ➤ French