CONFERENCE ON EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR ENLARGEMENT
Brussels 19 October 2009

Chairs

Timo Summa, Director for Financial Instruments and Regional Programmes, DG Enlargement
Timo Summa is Finnish and has a Ph.D. in Economics. After having senior management positions in the private sector he joint the European Commission's External Relations Directorate General in 1995. He has been Director responsible for Eastern Europe and Central Asia in 1995-2001, then joint the Enterprise Directorate General being responsible for the Small and medium size enterprises and Entrepreneurship. Since 2005 he has been Director at the Enlargement Directorate General responsible for the Strategic coordination and Financial instruments.

Anders Henriksson, Senior Special Adviser to the Swedish EU Presidency seconded by the European Commission
Anders Henriksson has served the Commission since 1998, notably as Team Leader for Lithuania in DG Enlargement, a Director in DG Development and as Head of the Commission Representation in Sweden. 1995-1998 Mr. Henriksson, who has a background in the Swedish diplomatic service, served as Antici Councillor at the Permanent EU Representation of Sweden. Mr Henriksson, who is a trained economist, worked for the World Bank in Washington 1988-1994.
Main Speakers

Mr Frank Belfrage, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden


Michael Leigh, Director-General for Enlargement

Michael Leigh is the Director-General for Enlargement in the European Commission. In his previous position as Deputy Director General in the Directorate General for External relations, he was responsible for European Neighbourhood Policy, relations with Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus and Central Asia, Middle East and South Mediterranean. Before joining DG External Relations, he was Director in DG Enlargement in charge of Turkey as well as Bulgaria, Cyprus, Malta, Romania. He was an advisor to Commissioners Hans van den Broek, Frans Andriessen and Lord Cockfield. He has held a number of other positions in the Commission and the General Secretariat of the Council for over 20 years. Leigh’s background is in political science; he holds a BA from Oxford University, a PhD from M.I.T., and has published and lectured on European integration, foreign policy and international relations at Wellesley College, the University of Sussex, and Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Bologna.

Heather Grabbe, Director of the Open Society Institute, Brussels

Heather Grabbe is Director of the Open Society Institute–Brussels and serves as director of EU Affairs for the Soros foundations network. She has done extensive research, policy, and advocacy work concerning EU enlargement in Central and Southeast Europe and has significant expertise in European foreign and security policies and EU institutional reform.

Heather Grabbe previously served as senior advisor to European Commissioner Olli Rehn from 2004 to 2008. She was also deputy director of the Centre for European Reform, a London-based think tank. She has written widely and is a visiting fellow at the London School of Economics. Heather Grabbe holds a PhD from the University of Birmingham.
Pierre Mirel, Director, Directorate C - Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo Issues, DG Enlargement

Pierre Mirel has been a Director in DG Enlargement since 2001, first as negotiator for Hungary and Director for Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovenia and Slovakia, then for all ten new Member States in the year before their accession. In 2005 he became Director for Turkey and information and communication policy. In his current role he is responsible for Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, and Kosovo. He has held a number of other positions in DG Enlargement, DG External Relations and DG Industry where he began his Commission career in 1981. Prior to joining the Commission, Mr Mirel worked at the International Institute for Public Administration in Paris and before this was posted in two French Embassies, first in Cairo where he was also an assistant professor at Cairo University and then in Saigon where he was Director of the Cooperation Centre. Mr Mirel has a PhD in Public Law from the University of Poitiers, France. He was cofounder of "Action International contre la Faim, Paris" in 1980, has published <<L'Egypte des Ruptures>> (Editions Sinbad, Paris, 1982) and was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary. He is married with two children.

Gordana Djurović, Minister for European Integration of Montenegro

Prof Dr. Gordana Djurović was appointed for Minister for European Integration of Montenegro on 10 June 2009 by the Parliament of Montenegro. In 2005, she was appointed for the Head of Negotiating Team for negotiations on stabilization and association process, which was successfully completed with signing of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement on 15 October 2007. In the period 2006-2009, she held the position of the Deputy Prime Minister for European Integration. In the previous Government of Montenegro, she was Minister for International Economic Relations (February 2004-October 2006).

She is also a full professor in the Faculty of Economics in Podgorica, where she teaches Economic Development, International Economic Relations, and Regional Economy. As Head of the post-graduate studies in the field of European Economic Integration, she teaches Economics of the EU and Enlargement Policy. She is an eminent writer in the field of economics, author and co-author of many books, papers and articles. She is married, mother of two sons.

Péter Heil, Head of Minister’s Cabinet, Prime Minister’s Office, Hungary

Péter Heil is the Head of the Minister's Cabinet at the Prime Minister's Office, Hungary. He graduated and obtained a Ph.D. at the Budapest University of Economic Sciences. He studied EU integration at the Universities of Heidelberg and Oxford, before starting a civil service career in 1995. From 1998 to 2002 he headed the Assistance Co-ordination Secretariat of the Prime Minister's Office, responsible for the Phare and ISPA programmes. From 2002 to 2007 he worked as vice president of the National Development Agency, responsible for the use of the EU structural and cohesion funds, from where he moved into the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development as head of the Minister’s Cabinet, until May 2008. He then worked at the Ministry of National Development and Economy as deputy state secretary, afterwards moved to the Ministry of Energy and Transport to become head of the Minister’s Cabinet. He is also the head of the Cohesion Policy Sub-Committee of the Inter-ministerial Committee for European Integration.