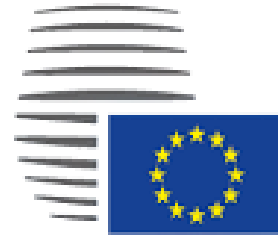




European Parliament
FORMER MEMBERS
ASSOCIATION



FMA VISIT TO CYPRUS

26-27 March 2026

*Profile of
FMA Delegation Members*

FMA SECRETARIAT

ANTALL 02Q73
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
B-1047 BRUSSELS
TEL : +32 2.284.07.03 FAX : +32 2.284.09.89
E-MAIL : FORMERMEMBERS@EUROPARL.EUROPA.EU

FMA Board Members



Dr Klaus HÄNSCH

(PES 1979-2009, Germany)

FMA President and Delegation leader

Klaus Hänsch is a German politician. He was a Member of the European Parliament from 1979 to 2009, and a member of the Party of European Socialists group, of which he was Vice-Chairman from 1989 to 1994 and from 1997 to 2009.

Klaus Hänsch was Presidium-Member of the Convention drafting a European Constitution (2002-2003) and Parliament's representative in the Intergovernmental Conference on the Constitutional Treaty for the European Union (2003-2004). He was Member for Germany (SPD) from 1979 to 2009 and President of the European Parliament from 1994 to 1997. Klaus Hänsch is currently President of the Former Members Association.

Monica BALDI

(EPP 1994-1999, Italy)

FMA Vice-President



Monica Baldi, architect and urban planner, is Grand Officer of Merit of the Italian Republic. She is Vice President of the European Parliament Former Members Association (FMA) and of ARS PACE. Ambassador of AWomen20. Deputy and Secretary of the Commission for Foreign and Community Affairs at the Chamber of Deputies from 2001 to 2006. MEP and Deputy President of the Committee for Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport from 1994 to 1999.

Baldi was Vice President of the Red Cross of Pistoia and President of the associations: Pinocchio di Carlo Lorenzini, Pinocchiorworld, Laurus and Professional Cycling Groups League. She is speaker and promoter of conferences on: international politics, cooperation and development, culture, urban planning, environment. She has always been committed to the defence of Human Rights and in particular for the Rights of Women. She is the co-author of the FMA publications produced in collaboration with the Historical Archives of the European Union: "Overcoming the Pandemic", "Present Future of Europe" and "Participation in Europe".



Jean-Pierre AUDY
(EPP 2005-2014, France)
FMA Treasurer

Jean-Pierre Audy was a Member of the European Parliament between 2005 – 2014. He was the Vice-Chair of the Committee on Budgetary Control from 2009 to 2012 , the Vice-Chair of the Delegation for relations with the Mercosur countries from 2010 to 2014 and the President of the French delegation of the EPP group from 2010 to 2014.

Audy was the Vice-Chair of the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly from 2013 to 2014 and a Member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, Committee on International Trade, Delegation for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Delegation for relations with the Maghreb countries and the Arab Maghreb Union (including Libya).

Teresa RIERA MADURELL
(S&D 2004-2014, Spain)
FMA Honorary Secretary



Teresa Riera Madurell is a former Member of the European Parliament (2004-2014) known for her contributions to research and innovation. She served as the S&D coordinator of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and was the rapporteur of Horizon 2020, a key research and innovation program.

From 2014 to 2019, she was Member of the RISE-Advisory Group of Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science. Ms Riera Madurell is a professor of Computer Sciences and Artificial Intelligence, chairs the Science Policy Advisory Committee at the Barcelona Supercomputing Centre (BSC-CNS), and is President of the Balearic Islands-Council of the European Movement and Member of the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) and of the Balearic Group of the Club of Rome Spanish Chapter.

FMA Board Members



Edit HERCZOG

(SOC / S&D, 2004-2009 / 2009-2014, Hungary)

FMA Board Member

Edit Herczog is a distinguished professional with extensive experience in public policy and education. Since January 2024, she has served as the Chair of the Administrative Board at ACER, having previously held the position of Vice-Chair from 2022 to 2024.

She is also the Director-General of Vision & Values SRL, her own consultancy focusing on strategic foresight in public research and education. In addition to her roles in various organizations, she advises GÉANT on European digitalization policies and chairs the Widening Network at Science|Business, promoting collaboration among Central-Eastern and Southern European stakeholders. Herczog's background includes two terms as a Member of the European Parliament and significant involvement in advisory roles with the European Commission and other influential networks. Her academic contributions include teaching positions in International Business Management and EU Public Affairs. She holds degrees in Food Engineering and Portuguese Language and Literature, reflecting her diverse expertise.

Manuel PORTO

(ELDR/EPP, 1994-1996 / 1996-1999, Portugal)

FMA Board Member



Manuel Porto (born on 15 June 1943, Coimbra, Portugal) was a Quaestor of the European Parliament and the Parliament's Bureau between 1992-1994. He was the Vice-Chair of the Committee on Budgets 1994-1997 and a Member of the Academic Council of the Jean Monnet Action.

Porto was the former World President of the ECSAs, the European Community Studies Associations (2002-2008) and the Director of the Association of European Studies (University of Coimbra).

He is a lecturer of 'Policies of the European Union' at the University of Lusíada of Oporto and of 'International Economic Law' at the University of Lusíada of Lisbon. He is also a visiting Professor of the University and Institute of European Studies of Macau and the Vice Secretary General of the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon.



Godelieve QUISTHOUDT-ROWOHL

(EPP 1989-2019, Germany)

FMA Board Member

Dr. Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl was a Member of the European Parliament and is a Member of the Management Committee meeting of the FMA.

She studied Physical Chemistry in Leuven, Belgium and at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen with Prof. Dr. Manfred Eigen (Nobel Prize winner). She has a Doctorate to Dr. phil. nat.

She worked as a research assistant at Hannover Medical School and served on the Academic Council of the University of Hildesheim Foundation.

She received an honorary Professorship for her activity in Research and Teaching at the Foundation University of Hildesheim and is the bearer of the Federal Cross of Merit on the Band.

Paul RÜBIG

(EPP-ED 1996-2019, Austria)

FMA Board Member



Paul Rübige is an Austrian politician and businessman who served as a Member of the European Parliament (MEP) from 1996 to 2019, making him Austria's longest-serving MEP. Before that, he was a member of the Upper Austrian Parliament (1991–1996) and chaired the EU Integration Committee during Austria's accession to the EU.

In the European Parliament, he was actively involved in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, the Committee on Budgetary Control, and the Committee on Budgets. He also chaired the Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA) unit and played a key role in EU external relations, particularly with EFTA countries and the Arabian Peninsula.

A strong advocate for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), Rübige founded SME Europe in 2012 and served as president of SME Global. He was also a member of various parliamentary intergroups on digital policies, energy, and sustainability.

Throughout his career, he received multiple awards, including MEP of the Year in Research and Innovation and the Grand Decoration of Honour in Gold for Services to the Republic of Austria. He has also co-authored publications on patents, telecommunications, and European integration.

Cypriot Member



Antigoni PAPADOPOULOU
(S&D 2009-2014, Cyprus)

Antigoni Papadopoulou is a Cypriot politician, writer, and artist with a long record of public service at local, national, and European level. She began her political career in local government, serving as Municipal Councilor and later becoming the first woman Mayor of Morphou, her Turkish-occupied hometown, where she represented the rights and hopes of displaced citizens.

She served as a Member of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, where she chaired the Committee on Economic Affairs and Budgeting – the first woman to hold this position. From 2001 to 2009 she was a Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, serving as Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Economic Affairs.

In 2009 she was elected to the European Parliament, becoming one of the first two Cypriot women to serve as MEPs. During her mandate she worked on citizens' rights, employment, health, economic issues and Women's Rights and Gender Equality. She has remained active in national political life, most recently as Vice President of the Democratic Alignment.

Alongside her political career, she is an accomplished painter and the author of four books, including a poetry collection, as well as of numerous articles and publications on political, social, and cultural issues.

FMA Members

Jean-Paul BENOIT

(SOC, PES 1989-1994, France)



Jean-Paul Benoit is a French lawyer and politician who served as a Member of the European Parliament from 1989 to 1994. A member of the Socialist Group and the Party of European Socialists, he was actively involved in trade and international relations, serving on the Committee on External Economic Relations and the Delegation for relations with the United States.

Before his time in the European Parliament, he held various governmental positions, including roles in foreign trade and industry. During his mandate, he worked on reports concerning American protectionism and the accession of Central European countries, while also participating in diplomatic missions to the Middle East and election observation in Russia and Africa. Since 2002, he has been a lawyer specializing in international and European criminal law. He is also a Knight of the Legion of Honour and an author on European and African affairs.



Liliane-Carol Benoit

Liliane-Carol Benoit is a journalist and cultural specialist. Her career reflects a lifelong commitment to journalism, the arts, and European cultural exchange.

She holds a Certificate in General Literary Studies and graduated from the National School of Oriental Languages at the University of Paris in 1967. She later earned a Diploma of English Studies from the University of Cambridge and completed her studies at the Sorbonne School of Interpreting and Translation in 1970. She also obtained a certificate from Lomonosov Moscow State University (MGU), strengthening her international linguistic expertise.

Benoit began her career in journalism and broadcasting, serving as a presenter on Mosaïque on FR3 from 1976 to 1979. She worked as a translator-interpreter and subtitled films for TITRA-FILMS. Deeply involved in the arts, she acted as an art consultant and exhibition curator, and directed the Gallery at the Maison de l'Europe from 1994 to 1997. She also executive-produced an award-winning short film on Serge Poliakoff. Active in European cultural institutions, she served as Vice-President for cultural affairs at the Robert Schuman Institute for Europe.

Published works:

- Une simple passante. De Varsovie à Jérusalem (2017)
- Mécènes. Shining A Light (2020)
- Et si c'était vrai ? (2021)
- Je ne suis pas celle que vous croyez (2022)

FMA Members

Lars Patrick BERG

(ID, ECR, 2019-2021, 2021-2024, Germany)



Lars Patrick Berg is a German politician who served as a Member of the European Parliament from 2019 to 2024.

Elected with the Alternative for Germany (AfD), he later left the party and the Identity and Democracy group in June 2021 to join the European Conservatives and Reformists, and subsequently became a member of the Bündnis Deutschland party in January 2023. Prior to his role in the European Parliament, he was a member of the Baden-Württemberg state parliament from 2016 to 2019, focusing on domestic policy and international affairs. Berg studied Eastern European history and international energy economics and has worked as a PR consultant and press spokesman for various political organizations. Bilingual and raised in a multicultural environment, he is also a lieutenant colonel in the reserve of the German Armed Forces.



Reimer BÖGE

(EPP 1989-2019, Germany)

Reimer Böge is a German politician who served as Member of the European Parliament (MEP) from 1989 until 2019. He is a member of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany, part of the European People's Party.

Böge served as vice-chair of the Delegation for relations with Australia and New Zealand, member of the Committee on Budgets and the Special committee on the policy challenges and budgetary resources for a sustainable European Union after 2013 and substitute of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Delegation for relations with Japan. In addition, he was standing rapporteur on policy challenges and budgetary means of the enlarged Union 2007–2013.

Böge served as vice-chairman of the Budget Committee and the Parliament's lead negotiator on the EU's financial framework for 2007–13; under his stewardship, the Parliament got an extra €4 billion and the chance to vote on the budget review.

FMA Members

Bob van den BOS

(ELDR 1999 - 2004, Netherlands)



Bob van den Bos is a Dutch political scientist and politician. In 2008, he obtained his doctorate from the University of Leiden with a thesis in political, administrative and historical sciences. He was a member of the Upper House, Lower House and European Parliament for D66. Bob Van Den Bos was Member of the European Parliament from 1999 to 2004.

He was Member of the Group of the European Liberal, Democrat and Reform Party. During his term, he was Member of the Committee on Development and Cooperation ; Member of the European Parliament to the Joint Parliamentary Assembly of the Agreement between the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and the European Union (ACP-EU) and Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy.



Emine BOZKURT

(SOC, S&D 2004-2009, 2009-2014, Netherlands)

Emine Bozkurt a Dutch politician and Member of the European Parliament between 2004 and 2014. She is a member of the Dutch Labour Party. In the European Parliament she was a member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality. Furthermore, she was the chairperson of the Delegation for Relations with the Countries of Central America, as well as a substitute member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Cees BREMMER

(EPP-ED, 2003-2004, Netherlands)



He studied Political Science at the Free University in Amsterdam and Law at Leiden University in the Netherlands. In addition, he spent several years studying the Spanish language.

He has had a long career in Dutch politics, particularly within the Christian Democratic Party (CDA). He has served as political secretary and campaign manager for the party, as well as a member of both the Dutch Parliament and the European Parliament. Today, he continues his public service as a member—and the “Nestor”—of the city council of Voorschoten, the town where he resides. Throughout his career, he has been deeply committed to Christian-democratic values and politics. He has also served as General Secretary of YMCA Netherlands.

Jan DHAENE

(GUE/EFA 2002-2004, Belgium)



He served as a city councillor in Kortrijk, a central city in the province of West Flanders, whose provincial capital is Bruges. He resides in the Flemish Region in the north of Belgium. In Belgium, Members of the European Parliament are elected on a linguistic basis: 13 represent Dutch-speaking constituencies (Flanders), 8 represent French-speaking constituencies (Wallonia), and 1 represents the German-speaking community (Ostbelgien). He was elected to the European Parliament for Agalev, the Flemish Green Party, which he left in 2004.

Since 2011, he has been a member of the New Flemish Alliance (N-VA), a Flemish nationalist party and the largest political force in Flanders. The party has been part of the Belgian federal government since February 2025, under the leadership of Prime Minister Bart De Wever. Within the European Parliament, N-VA is affiliated with the European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR) Group. He currently serves as a board member in the party's local section.

He is a retired official in Sustainable Development at the Federal Public Service Finance. In addition to his professional and political career, he is active as a city and international tour guide, pursues studies in painting, and is a grandfather to eight grandchildren.



Dolores GARCÍA HIERRO CARABALLO

(S&D 2011-2014, Spain)

Dolores García-Hierro Caraballo is a Spanish politician. From 2011 to 2014, she served as a Member of the European Parliament, representing Spain on behalf of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party.

She served as the Socialist Group's rapporteur on the fisheries agreement with Morocco and on European regulations governing the fisheries sector, and drafted the first initiative aimed at recognising the rights of women fishermen, shellfish gatherers and women in general, which was approved by the European Parliament. She has also served as a Madrid city councillor, a Member of the Congress of Deputies, a member of the Madrid Assembly and a senator.

Leslie HUCKFIELD

(SOC 1984-1989, United Kingdom)



Leslie Huckfield was a Member of the House of Commons from 1967 till 1983 and a Member of the European Parliament from 1984 till 1989, where he was a member of the Socialists and Democrats Group and Vice Chair of the Parliament's Transport Committee. He is active in the European Parliament FMA.

He was Under Secretary of State (a Government Minister) in the Department of Industry from 1976 till 1979 and a member of the Labour Party National Executive Committee from 1978 till 1982. In 1980 he was chair of the Labour NEC Working Group on Workers' Cooperatives which made recommendations for Labour's 1983 General Election Manifesto.

He is currently a Visiting Fellow and researcher at Glasgow Caledonian University, supervising doctoral students, and an Associate Lecturer and Honorary Research Associate at the Open University, specialising in European Union matters.

His academic qualifications include an Oxford MA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, an MSc with Distinction in Urban and Regional Planning from Heriot Watt University and a PhD from Glasgow Caledonian University. Alongside his academic qualifications, Leslie Huckfield has a range of UK, European and international policy development and implementation experience. Since his Membership of the European Parliament he has worked on European Union funding for colleges, universities, the third sector and trade unions in Merseyside, the West Midlands and Scotland. From 1997 when he moved to the West Midlands, his external activities have included external funding, project management, seminars and conferences in and for Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Venezuela, the Caribbean and Ghana. He was also an Associate of West Midlands in Europe Office in Brussels. In 2015 and 2016 he delivered a series of 11 European Funding Masterclass across Scotland, attended by 500 representatives from Scotland's social enterprises and community organisations.

Anneli JÄÄTTEENMÄKI (ALDE 2004-2019, Finland)



Anneli Jäätteenmäki is a Finnish politician and lawyer with a distinguished career in both national and European politics. She earned her Master's degree in law in 1980 and later worked as a lawyer before entering politics.

Her political career began in 1987, when she was elected to the Finnish Parliament, where she served until 2004. During this time, she held key governmental positions, including Minister of Justice from 1994 to 1995 and later Prime Minister in 2003, becoming Finland's first female head of government.

In 2004, she transitioned to European politics and was elected as a Member of the European Parliament (MEP), representing Finland until 2019. She also held the role of Vice-Chairman of the European Parliament from 2005 to 2006.

Beyond her parliamentary work, she has remained active in regional and cultural governance. Since 2021, she has served as President of the City Council of Lapua, and since 2022, as Vice-Chair of the Board of the Regional Government. Additionally, she has chaired the Swedish-Finnish Cultural Foundation since 2020.

Alongside her political and legal career, she is also an author, having published two books.



Gisela KALLENBACH (Greens/EFA 2004-2009, Germany)

Gisela Kallenbach, a graduate engineer in chemistry, worked as a scientist for many years in East Germany. She was elected as a local councillor in 1990 and joined the Leipzig city administration in 1991, where she served until 2004. Between 2000 and 2003, she took on the role of International Mayor with the UN Mission in Kosovo. She later became a Member of the European Parliament (2004-2009) and a Member of the Parliament of Saxony (2009-2014).

Due to her social origin and to her Christian upbringing and socialisation, the GDR regime has not allowed her to study normally. Instead, she had to work from the age of 16 and complete her education (laboratory assistant, translator from English, engineer) through evening classes and distance learning. As early as 1982, she became active in various Leipzig civic movements, and was involved in ecological and civic (i.e., political opposition) organisations up to the Peaceful Revolution and beyond. Today she is member of different boards of several civic organisations. She was awarded, among others, the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany.



Jo LEINEN

(PES, SOC, S&D 1999-2004, 2004-2009, 2009-2019, Germany)

Joseph Leinen is a German politician. Jo Leinen was Member of the European Parliament from 1999 to 2019. He was Member of the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats.

During his last term, he was Chair and Member of the Delegation for relations with the People's Republic of China. He was also Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs ; Member of the Conference of Delegation Chairs and Member of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety.

He is well known for his environmental and foreign affairs activities, as well as for his support for a Federal Europe. He obtained a law degree in Germany in 1972 and a Certificate of Advanced European Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium, in 1974. Since 1977 he has worked as a lawyer.

Robert MORELAND

(ED 1979-1984, United Kingdom)



He served as a Member of the European Parliament for Staffordshire from 1979 to 1984, and later as a Member of the European Economic and Social Committee from 1986 to 1998, where he chaired the Regional Policy Section from 1990 to 1998. He was also active in UK politics as a councillor on Westminster and later Gloucester City Council, President of the Gloucester Conservative Association, Deputy Chairman of the Conservative Group for Europe, and Treasurer of the European Movement.

Born in Gloucester, he studied at the University of Nottingham and the University of Warwick, and worked as a civil servant in Canada and later as a management consultant with Deloitte before entering European politics.



Jan MULDER
(ALDE 1994-2014, Netherlands)

Jan Mulder is a Dutch politician. He served as a Member of the European Parliament from 1994 to 2004 and from 2010 to 2014, with the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe. Jan Mulder graduated from the Agricultural University in Wageningen as Agricultural Engineer.

He first worked for the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations in Kenya from 1970 to 1975. From 1975 to 1976, he was a Policy Officer at the Directorate-General for International Cooperation in The Hague, Netherlands. He also worked 18 years for the European Commission where he was responsible for developing and implementing Agricultural Development projects.



Georgi PIRINSKI
(S&D 2014-2019, Bulgaria)

Georgi Pirinski was a Member of the 8th European Parliament as a member S&D from Bulgaria. He was a Member of two Parliamentary Committees – on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) and on Budgetary Control (CONT).

In EMPL he was involved in the adoption of priority social legislation, such as the Decision to establish the Platform for tackling undeclared work (as Parliamentary Rapporteur), the Regulation for the setting-up of the European Labour Authority (ELA) (as Co-Rapporteur) and the adoption of the European Pillar of Social Rights. Other files he worked on were on the posting of workers, on tackling inequalities as a means of boosting employment and growth and on developing the social economy. In the Committee he was Rapporteur for a number of EMPL Opinions, such as the one on CETA. In CONT he was Rapporteur for a number of Reports, Opinions and Working documents on such subjects as the protection of EU's financial interests and the fight against fraud, the activities of the EIB, the reports of the European Court of Auditors on cohesion funding, the free movement of workers, productive investments in businesses and the functioning of the Stability and Growth Pact. I was a member of the Euronest Parliamentary assembly and co-chairman of its Committee on Social Affairs, Education and Employment.



Peter PRICE

(ED, EPP 1979 - 1992, 1992-1994, United Kingdom)

While an MEP for 15 years, Peter served as Chair of the Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee and earlier as spokesperson for his political group on the Legal Affairs and Budgets Committees.

Since then, as European Strategy Counsel, Peter has advised public bodies and major multinational companies on EU strategic issues. One of the earliest such roles was advising the Latvian Government on key steps necessary for its EU accession.

He was a part-time Judge for 12 years and has had a series of non-executive Board roles relating to health, higher education, devolution and public audit. He served on the Board of the UK Food Standards Agency and as Chair of its Welsh Food Advisory Committee until September 2023.

Peter left the Conservative Party in 1997 and joined the Liberal Democrats. He served on the Party's Policy Committee and its Parliamentary International Affairs Committee until 2020. He currently serves on the ALDE (pan-European party) Council.

Joy PRICE



Joy was born in Trinidad to ethnically Indian parents and came to UK to pursue a nursing career.

After broad training, she specialised in operating theatre work and, after experience of diverse types of cases, Joy advanced to take charge of operating theatres in leading hospitals in London and Cardiff. She retired from the NHS in 2022.

After marrying Peter Price, then a serving MEP, in 1988, Joy has closely observed EU and international matters and met leading politicians in many countries.



Eva QUISTORP
(V 1989-1994, Germany)

Quistorp studied theology, German literature, and political science at the Free University of Berlin. She trained as a secondary-school teacher and as a moderator of educational and participatory learning processes.

In the 1970s and 1980s, she was a founder of women's, environmental, and peace movements in West Germany and across Western Europe. Her work was closely connected to Charter 77, Solidarity in Poland, and the Freeze movement in the United States.

She was a co-founder of the German Green Party for the first European elections in 1979 and later served as a Member of the European Parliament from 1989 to 1994. From 1992 onward, she was deeply committed to the liberation of Sarajevo and Srebrenica and supported the "Women in Black" movement in Belgrade and Zagreb.

She founded the Global Women's Climate Network and Women for Peace. She has been elected to the presidencies of UN Women Germany and the Friends of the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

Today, she is a member of the Ukraine Lobby of the European Parliament and serves as Senior Advisor to the World Future Council. She was awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz (Federal Cross of Merit) by the President of Germany.



Dorien ROOKMAKER
(NA, ECR 2020-2021, 2021-2024, Netherlands)

Dorien Rookmaker is a Dutch politician of the More Direct Democracy (MDD) party, who served as a Member of the European Parliament between 2020 and 2024. Initially serving as a non-attached member, she joined the European Conservatives and Reformists in December 2021.

She served as a Member of the Committee on Transport and Tourism and subsequently on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs. In addition, he was a member of the Delegation for relations with Canada.

Margarita STARKEVIČIŪTĖ
(ALDE 2004-2009, Lituanie)



Margarita Starkevičiūtė est une femme politique lituanienne qui a été députée au Parlement européen de 2004 à 2009.

Elle a obtenu un diplôme en économie à l'université de Vilnius en 1978.

She also obtained a PhD in social sciences, specialising in economics, from the same university. She is a member of the advisory committees of European institutions, as well as of the Lithuanian Council for Culture and the Arts.



Alexandra THEIN
(ALDE 2009-2014, Germany)

Alexandra Thein is a German politician and lawyer specializing in Middle Eastern affairs. She served as a Member of the European Parliament from 2009 to 2014, representing a liberal party from Berlin. During her tenure, she was actively involved in several European Parliament delegations focusing on relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council, Israel, the Mashreq countries, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

A strong advocate for peace in the Middle East, human rights, and improving living conditions for Palestinians, she was also a member of various EU friendship and working groups related to Lebanon, the UAE, the Gulf countries, Turkey, Qatar, and Euro-Palestine.

Fluent in French, she studied law, public international law, and European integration in Germany and Switzerland. Since 1991, she has worked as a lawyer and notary in Berlin. She also held leadership positions in the German-Arab Society and the Liberal SME Association in Berlin. Due to health reasons, she stepped down as president of the Berlin Free Democratic Party (FDP) in 2015.

Britta THOMPON

(S&D 2004-2014, Denmark)



Britta Thomsen was a Danish Member of the European Parliament between 2004 and 2014. She was the Vice-chair of the ITRE committee (Industry, Technology, Research and Energy) from 2004-2007.

She was the Rapporteur and shadow rapporteur on directives on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Biofuels. Thomsen was appointed by the Danish Parliament as a deputy member of the Supreme Court for a period of six years 2021-2027. She has been writing articles about the Nordic labor market model and about the political situation in Denmark and contributed to some of the FEPS books. From 2012-2023 she has been the adjunct professor at the Copenhagen Business School in the department of Digitalization. She received the Danish Women Society prize “Mathildeprisen” in 2015 for her visionary and persistent effort to establish gender equality in Europa.



Julie WARD

(S&D, 2014-2020, United Kingdom)

Julie Ward is a Labour politician who was elected to represent north west of England in 2014 and re-elected in 2019. She served on committees for Women's Rights & Gender Equality, Regional Development, Economic & Monetary Affairs and Culture & Education, latterly as Vice Chair of CULT Committee. She was a member of the delegation for relations with Bosnia Herzegovina and Kosovo and the EU-ACP (African, Caribbean & Pacific) Joint Parliamentary Assembly where she co-chaired both youth and women's conferences. She represented the Socialist & Democrats at the UN Committee on the Status of Women in New York on two occasions and at the Internet Governance Forum in João Pessoa (Brazil), Guadalajara (Mexico) and Paris (France). She was a steering group member of the European Internet Forum and was very active in several cross-party intergroups including Trade Unions, Common Goods and Public Services, Child Rights, Youth, Disability, LGBT+, Anti-Poverty and Anti-racism and Diversity. She participated in missions to European Capitals of Culture including Wroclaw, Aarhus, Plovdiv and Paphos.

In 2020 Julie returned to work in the cultural sector. She co-ordinated the arts in education programme for the British Council as part of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games bringing together more than 60 schools from across the globe to work with local artists and exchange ideas about shared values and concerns. She is an Honorary Fellow of the Wolfson Research Institute for Health & Wellbeing at Durham University, UK, and has recently been appointed to an Expert Working Group on climate and sustainability for European Libraries and Archives Network.

FMA Staff

Elisabetta FONCK
Secretary General



Albertina FERREIRA MAGALHÃES
Events and Communication