

ANNEX II

Biographical Notes

General Coordination



Maria João Rodrigues – Chairwoman, Re-Imagine Europa

Maria João Rodrigues, former Minister in Portugal of PM Antonio Guterres, is a European politician with a long track in different European institutions: special advisor in EU Presidencies, European Council, European Commission, and member of the European Parliament. She played a relevant role in several European initiatives, including the Lisbon Treaty, the Eurozone reform, the European Pillar of Social Rights, the roadmap for EU's future, and EU inputs for the UN Pact for the Future including the Global Digital Compact. For full biography please see [here](#).

Global Cooperation



Stefano Manservigi - Chair of the Governing Board, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)

Stefano Manservigi worked for many years at the European Commission, where he held positions as the Head of Cabinet to President Romano Prodi, Director-General for Development and relations with Africa, Caribbean and Pacific States, Director-General for Home Affairs, and Director-General for Development and International Cooperation. He specialises in relations with countries in the Global South in a wide range of policies, and also served as the EU Ambassador to Türkiye. At present, Mr Manservigi is active in various think tanks and universities, and he is advising several international organisations. For full biography please see [here](#).

Digital



Manuel Castells - Sociologist and former Minister of University of the Spanish Government

Professor Manuel Castells is a Spanish sociologist recognized for his research on the information society, communication and globalization. In addition to being the foremost-cited communication scholar in the world, he has advised international organisations, governments and Presidents around the world helping to design global transformations and institutions. In January 2020, he was appointed Minister of Universities in the Sánchez II Government of Spain. For full biography please see [here](#).



Paul Timmers – Visiting Professor at KU Leuven and EUC Cyprus; CEO of iivii

Paul Timmers is professor at KU Leuven and European University Cyprus, CEO of iivii, WeltWert® partner and CERRE research fellow. He focuses on geopolitics and technology, strategic autonomy, and cybersecurity. He is member of the advisory council of the Netherlands' National Digitalisation Strategy and the Common Good Cyber fund and co-author of the EuroStack report on digital sovereignty for Europe. He was Director at the European Commission for cybersecurity, e-ID, digital health, smart cities, and e-government, and cabinet member. He is former research associate at the University of Oxford and Chair of the Supervisory Board of the Estonian eGovernance Academy. For full biography please see [here](#).

Energy and Climate



Sandrine Dixon-Declève - Honorary President, Club of Rome and Executive Chair, Earth4All

Sandrine Dixon-Declève is Honorary President for The Club of Rome, and Executive Chair of Earth4All. She co-founded the Systems Transformation Hub in 2024, and since 2025 has served as Commissioner for the WHO Pan European Commission on Climate and Health. She also sits on several non-executives and advisory boards including the Climate Governance Commission, EDP, BMW, UCB Climate KIC, Leonardo Centre, Imperial College London and is a Senior Associate and faculty member of the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). For full biography please see [here](#).

Economy and Finance



Paolo Guerrieri - Former Senator of the Italian Republic, Professor at PSIA SciencesPo

Paolo Guerrieri is Visiting Professor at the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences-Po (Paris) and the Business School of the University of San Diego. Former Senator of the Italian Republic and member of the Economic Budget Committee and the European Policy Committee at the Italian Senate from 2013 to 2018. Scientific Director of "The Journal of European Economic History" and "Economia Italiana". He has acted as consultant to European and international institutions and organisations such as the European Commission, the OECD and the World Bank and CEPAL. For full biography please see [here](#).



Stefan Collignon - Professor of Political Economy, London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE) European Institute

Stefan Collignon visiting professor at the European Institute, London School of Economics, where he taught as Centennial professor from 2001 to 2005. In 2023 he returned to Harvard as an associate professor at the Economics Faculty, having taught as Visiting Professor at Harvard's Government Department and the Center for European Studies from 2005-2007. From 2007-2022 he was Professore ordinario at Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa. He has also been a regular visiting professor at Chulalongkorn university since For full biography please see [here](#).

Security



Giovanni Grevi – Senior Fellow, Brussels School of Governance

Giovanni Grevi is an Associate Fellow at the Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy (CSDS) of the VUB. Giovanni also teaches European foreign policy and international relations at the College of Europe, Bruges, and at Sciences Po, Paris, and is a Senior Associate Fellow with the European Policy Centre (EPC) and with ISPI. He has worked and published extensively on EU foreign and security policy, global order, US foreign policy, foresight and EU politics and institutions. For full biography please see [here](#).

Małgorzata Bonikowska – President of Centre for International Relations, Poland



Dr Małgorzata Bonikowska is a Polish scholar, think tanker, expert in international relations and European studies, university professor and media commentator. She is the President (since 2013) of the Centre for International Relations (www.csm.org.pl) - a leading Polish independent think tank in foreign affairs, as well as co-founder and President of the THINKTANK Leaders Hub (www.think-tank.pl) – network for managers and leaders from business and public administration. Moreover, she is a member of the Advisory Council to the Chair of the European Affairs Committee of the Polish Parliament, member of the Council of the National School for Public Administration (KSAP) and member of the Supervisory Board of Bank Millennium.

Trade

Maarten Smeets – Senior Academy Associate, Clingendael Academy



Maarten Smeets (PhD) is a senior associate at the Clingendael Academy, a non resident senior fellow at the World Trade Institute, and guest Professor at the University of International Business and Economics. He also serves as a member of the steering committee of the G-20 Trade and Investment Research Network (TIRN), and led on trade in the T-20 task forces (South Africa, Brazil). He is a frequent organizer of and speaker at trade policy webinars, and has published in several leading journals on digital trade (WTO), inclusive growth, globalization, sanctions, structural reforms, developing countries. For full biography please see [here](#).



Gerhard Stahl – Visiting Professor, Peking University HSBC Business School; Former Secretary General, Committee of the Regions

Gerhard Stahl is a German economist and academic specialising in public policy, monetary affairs, and international economic relations, particularly EU-China cooperation. Stahl has held senior roles in European institutions, including Secretary General of the Committee of the Regions from 2004 to 2014 and Deputy Head of Cabinet for the European Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs. For full biography please see [here](#).