



Jo-Anne Bishop, Deputy Regional Director, Europe and Central Asia, UN Women

Jo-Anne Bishop has more than 20 years of international experience in the areas of gender equality and human rights. Prior to her current role as Deputy Regional Director of the UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (ad interim), she held senior management and advisory positions with the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe and governmental and non-governmental institutions in a broad range of countries.

Ms. Bishop served as senior advisor to the Governance Commission in Liberia where she led the development of a study resulting in a gender-responsive decentralisation process and reformed local governance act. Prior to this, Ms. Bishop served as Head of the the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and Director of the Canadian Governance Support Office in Afghanistan. She has also served as a senior advisor to the Timor-Leste Secretary of State for Equality and to the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission. She led various strategic reviews and evaluations at the global, regional and country level for a range of UN entities including UNFPA, UNDP, IOM and UN Women in the regions of Asia-Pacific and Europe and Central Asia aimed at strengthening performance and increasing impact of the UN system. She has also worked on the women, peace and security agenda and human rights in the Western Balkans, including in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo with the OSCE and United Nations.

Jo-Anne holds a MA Degree in International Affairs from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs in Canada and is the proud mother of two feminist children.



Barbora Buhnova, Associate Professor and Vice-Dean, Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University

Following her research career in Germany and Australia, Dr. Buhnova now leads multiple research teams at Faculty of Informatics MU and Czech CyberCrime Centre of Excellence C4e. Next to her academic activities, she is passionate about tech education among general public, being a Co-Founding and Governing Board member of Czechitas, a non-profit organisation aiming at making IT skills more accessible to youth and women (with 30,000+ graduates). She is a member of multiple initiatives engaging more women in tech (e.g. Informatics Europe working group Women in Informatics Research and Education (WIRE), EUGAIN: European Network for Gender Balance in Informatics) reaching across the entire Europe. Furthermore, she is a devoted speaker and author of multiple research studies on gender-sensitive tech education. She has received numerous recognitions for her activities, e.g. being featured among ACM Diversity Heros (2021), TOP Personalities in Tech by the Czech Computerworld magazine (2021), and TOP Women in the Czech Republic (2023).



H.E. Petra De Sutter. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Public Enterprises, Telecommunication and the Postal Services, Belgium.

After a long career as a gynaecologist and fertility expert, she entered politics in 2014, as a member of the Flemish green party Groen, motivated by the desire to combat the use of harmful substances in everyday environments.

In the Belgian Senate and the Council of Europe, De Sutter championed women's sexual and reproductive health and rights, and tackled bio-ethical questions, including surrogacy and commercial egg donation. She is committed to a socially equitable Europe, and to improving the rights and protections of refugees and the LGBTQI+ community.

In 2019, De Sutter was elected to the European Parliament as the leading candidate for her party Groen. She was a member in the Committee on the Environment and Public Health, the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, and was the first Green Chair of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection.



Dr Emilija Stojmenova Duh, Minister of Digital Transformation of the Republic of Slovenia

Dr Emilija Stojmenova Duh completed her undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Computer Science and Informatics of the University of Maribor. In the past, she managed the 4PDIH Digital Innovation Hub – a partnership between the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and the Association of Municipalities of Slovenia that raises awareness of the importance of digitalization, provides support in the development of digital knowledge and skills, and helps decision makers design appropriate digitalization policies. Her work in research and development focused on the use of new digital technologies for innovation in and the development of cities, villages and communities, digital innovation hubs, rural development and digital transformation.

Dr Stojmenova Duh was the first President of IEEE's "Women in Engineering Slovenia". She was also the first Slovenian woman representative at the Global Young Academy and a member of the European Research Area Working Group within ALLEA – All European Academies. She is strongly committed to increasing the number of young people studying engineering – especially women. She is author and co-author of a number of scientific and professional publications concerning digital transformation and is an Associate Professor for the Department of Information and Communication Technologies at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the University of Ljubljana.



Cristiana Flutur, Director, International Relations Department, The National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications of Romania

Ms. Flutur joined the National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM) in 2012, as an expert in the Unit for International Relations and European Affairs. She has an active role in representing Romania in the ITU and other international foras. In June 2019, she was appointed Director for International Affairs within ANCOM, managing the activity of three units which cover issues such as relationship with international and regional organisations, translations and bilateral cooperation, EU affairs, the organization of events and travels, respectively.

Ms. Flutur is the first woman to hold the position of chair of the Committee for ITU Policy (Com-ITU) and co-president of CEPT (The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations), for a period of three years that started in June 2018, being re-elected to a second three-year term in 2021.

She has acted as European vice-chair of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 (PP-18) and main coordinator for the European Common Proposals and Positions for PP-18 (Dubai) and PP-22 (Bucharest).

Cristiana also holds the chairmanship of the Advisory Board for the Network of women for ITU-D, an initiative which is designed to encourage gender balance in the activities of the ITU Development Sector. Ms. Flutur has successfully chaired the Committee 3 (Objectives) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2022 held in Kigali, Rwanda. Cristiana is the main organizer for ITU PP-22 held in Bucharest, Romania, on behalf of the host country.

Ms. Flutur is an Economics graduate from the Faculty of Finance and Banking, Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies and holds a master's degree from the same university in European Economics. She has extensive experience in the public sector, in both national and international institutions.



Julia Jasinska, Head of International Relations & Strategic Advocacy, Nokia

Julia heads the International Relations and Strategic Advocacy team at Nokia, within the Government Affairs International department. She drives advocacy activities on topics of global importance, including trade, supply chain issues, digital for development and digital inclusion. She also coordinates the company's engagements with leading international organizations. Currently she serves as Vice Chair of Market Access Working Group at

DIGITALEUROPE, and prior to that she was Vice Chair at Trade Policy Group of the same organization.

She is a member of Nokia's CEO Advisory Board. Before joining Nokia, Julia led trade policy at DIGITALEUROPE secretariat and worked as PR consultant. Julia holds a master's degree in European politics and policies from KU Leuven and a master's degree in international relations with specialization in international economic relations from the University of Warsaw.



Heather Johnson, Vice President, Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility for the Ericsson Group

Heather Johnson has worked for the Ericsson Group in Sweden for over 25 years. During this time, she has held various Communications and Corporate Affairs positions across the company, and for the last 20 years at the Group level. Since 2007 her work has focused exclusively on Ericsson's sustainability and corporate responsibility efforts, which support the company vision of limitless connectivity improving lives, redefining business and pioneering a sustainable future.

Ms. Johnson's focus is on advocating the role that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) can play in addressing global sustainable development challenges in areas such as climate change, access to education and humanitarian response and preparedness.

She manages relationships with the key stakeholders, including investors, the United Nations and other international organizations, and multi-stakeholder partnerships including the World Economic Forum, Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, and the Giga initiative. Her portfolio includes Ericsson's flagship Technology for Good programs, Connect to Learn and Ericsson Response.

Ericsson's efforts are underpinned by sustainability and responsible business programs, practices and targets embedded across the company including Ericsson's ambition to be Net-Zero across the value chain by 2040.

Ms. Johnson holds a BA in History from Villanova University and an MBA from Santa Clara University. She is a dual-citizen of the United States and Ireland and resides in Stockholm, Sweden with her husband and their three children.

Ambassador Lotte Knudsen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva

Lotte Knudsen was previously the Managing Director in the European Union's External Action service, in charge of global and multilateral issues, as well as human rights. She also served in the European Commission in a number of different posts. She was in charge of developing international relations in DG Justice and Home Affairs, before becoming Director, first on Security, including counter-terrorism issues; then on Justice issues, including legislative negotiations, in DG Justice; and in DG development dealing with thematic issues from migration, to health and human development. Earlier she also worked in the Relex DGs on EU/US relations and the EU Accession negotiations; in the Commission Secretariat General as well as in the Foreign Office in London, on a two-year secondment. She studied at the Ecole National d'Administration in Paris and the College of Europe in Bruges.



Evisi Koplaku, Expert on Competitiveness, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

Evisi focuses mainly on RCC's Women Economic Empowerment (WEE) agenda and the Common Regional Market's Regional Industrial Area actions (including developing regional green and circular economy value chains, boosting creative industries, entrepreneurship support etc.).

Following the establishment of the Regional Network of Women in Entrepreneurship, Evisi focuses her efforts in empowering the Regional Network by dedicated actions to support

women entrepreneurs in the Western Balkans region, enhance their visibility, enable networking and sharing of good practices and providing mentorship opportunities.

Evisi has worked as the economic advisor to the Minister of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship of Albania; Director of European Integration and Projects at the Ministry of Economic Development and at the Ministry of Tourism and Environment. She has acted as the National Coordinator for the Small Business Act for Europe and as national Contact Point for EU's COSME Programme. In all these positions, she has particularly focused on entrepreneurship support; investment promotion; SME policies and incentives; women entrepreneurship policies; and she has coordinated and managed EU and other donor funded projects focusing on entrepreneurship, tourism, environment, etc.

She was a policy researcher in various think-tanks in Albania focusing on the socio-economic dimensions of European Integration process; and a lecturer of finance courses in Eastern Mediterranean University, University of Tirana-Faculty of Economics, University of New York Tirana and the Canadian Institute of Technology.

She holds a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Banking and Finance from Eastern Mediterranean University (Northern Cyprus/Turkey); and a Master's Degree in European Economic Integration and Business from the College of Europe (Brugge, Belgium) and is now a PhD candidate at the University of Tirana, Albania.



Ingrid Macdonald, UN Resident Coordinator, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ms. Ingrid Macdonald (Australia) assumed the position of the UN Resident Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina in April 2020. Ms. Macdonald most recently worked at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) as Deputy Director for Operations and Advocacy overseeing the Asia Pacific region. At OCHA, she was also head of the Ukraine office and a Director with the Peer-2-Peer Support Project supporting Humanitarian Coordinators and country teams strengthen their collective delivery of humanitarian response. Prior to joining the UN, she served in leadership positions with international non-profits, the private sector and government for 19 years. She worked for the Norwegian Refugee Council as Representative in Geneva and held positions in

Afghanistan, Norway and Pakistan. She recently published her book: “Humanitarian Action and Counter Terrorism in the Muslim World”.



Olga Maximová, Head of Non-Profit Development, Czechitas

joined Czechitas in 2020 and is currently the Head of Development. She oversees foundation, individual donor, and impact investor relationship programs. She is also a Governing Board member of the Czechitas Endowment Fund, which makes IT training even more accessible to economically disadvantaged women. Olga brings more than 15 years of cross-sector experience from the international and regional levels. She holds a Master's Degree in British and American Studies from the University of Prešov (Slovakia). Olga also serves as an active mentor with the international Femme Palette women's network and an event volunteer for the Czech Australian New Zealand Association and other local and national groups in the Czech Republic. She is passionate about sports (cycling in particular) and loves dogs.



Lucie Riederová, Czechitas Ambassador and Lecturer

Lucie Riederová is a high school student and a language enthusiast whether it's German, Spanish, or C#. She is currently a trainee at the Microsoft STC center with a focus on software engineering. She is a part-time lecturer at Czechitas with a focus on child education in cybersecurity and the issue of gender standards in the Czech ICT industry.



Inga Rimkevičienė, Advisor on International Cooperation at the Communications Regulatory Authority (RRT) of the Republic of Lithuania

Inga serves as the Chair of the CEPT Project Team on Strategic ITU-D issues and the member of the Advisory Board of the Network of Women in ITU-D. Participant of several international projects in the field of communications, former member of Standardization Technical Committee on Electromagnetic Compatibility (TK 8). Since 2018, the member of Lithuanian delegation at the main ITU events, including the ITU Plenipotentiary Conferences (2018, 2022), ITU Council, GSR, WTSA, other. The main coordinator of preparations of Europe for the WTDC-22 and the Vice-Chair of the conference. Chair of the Steering Committee of ITU Europe Centres of Excellence for the period 2019-2022.



Zeynep Dilruba Tasdemir, Generation Connect Youth Envoy

Zeynep Dilruba Taşdemir is the Generation Connect Gender Champion in the 2022 selection by ITU. She works with Women Techmakers, the google initiative community, on gender-based cyber violence. She is also a National Gender Youth Activist at the UN Women's Generation Equality Forum.

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Natálie Terčová, Generation Connect Youth Envoy

Natálie Terčová, M.A. & M.A. is a specialist in the Interdisciplinary Research Team on Internet and Society and a Ph.D. candidate in the area of digital media. Her background is in media studies and social counseling. Her current research focuses on the digital skills of children and adolescents, and the risks and opportunities of information and communication technologies. She also serves as Generation Connect European youth envoy at ITU, UN.



Athena Vassilopoulos, Generation Connect Europe Youth Envoy



Dr. Cosmas Zavazava, Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau - International Telecommunication Union

Dr Cosmas Zavazava is responsible for strategic partnerships, resource mobilization, industry and private sector engagement, and execution of ITU development-oriented ICT projects. Prior to this, he was responsible for Statistics and Measuring the Information Society, Project Management, Capacity Building, Emergency Telecommunications, Climate Change, E-Waste Management, and support to Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing States, and Small Island Developing States.

Dr. Zavazava has been passionately designing and implementing global ICT projects for both sustainable development and disaster management. He has a track record of being a high-level multilateral negotiator, undertaking successful resource mobilization, and publishing. He has written on the role of ICT in addressing the unique needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, Small Island Developing States, and matters concerning developing countries in general. He has also written on disaster risk reduction and management, climate change adaptation and e-waste management. He is passionate about innovation. He launched a groundbreaking project on the use of big data to mitigate the impact of the Ebola disease, and epidemics in general. He also launched a project on the use of big data for official statistics.

He holds a Ph. D in multilateral trade (Switzerland), Master of Laws in Telecommunications and Information Technology Law (United Kingdom), Master's in international Relations (USA), Master's in Business Administration (Zimbabwe), Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, and Diplomas in Telecommunications and Systems Engineering (Romania and Japan).