



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
The Secretariat**

Vienna, 12 September 2024

Biographies of Moderators and Speakers

31st OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

“Enhancing security and stability in the OSCE region through digital innovation, contributing to sustainable development and climate adaptation”

CONCLUDING MEETING

Prague, 12-13 September 2024

Venue: Czernin Palace, Loretánské nám. 5, 118 00 Prague

Opening session
Welcoming remarks

Moderator: Ambassador Natasha Meli Daudey, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Malta to the OSCE

Ambassador Meli Daudey holds a Master's Degree in European Politics and Administration from the *Collège d'Europe* (Bruges).

She is a career diplomat. Since joining the ranks of Malta's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2001, she served as Antici at Malta's Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels (2003-2008); Deputy Ambassador of Malta to France (2008-2014) and subsequently as Deputy Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations in New York (2014-2016).

Thereafter, she was appointed Ambassador of Malta to Poland and non-resident Ambassador to Georgia, Moldova, Belarus and Armenia (2016-2018).

Since 2018, Ambassador Daudey is also serving as Malta's Ambassador to Austria and as Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Vienna.



H.E. Jan Lipavský, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic

H.E. Mr. Jan Lipavský became the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic on December 17, 2021.

Prior to becoming minister, Mr. Lipavský entered government as a parliamentary representative. He served four years in the Chamber of Deputies as the Vice-Chairman on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Committee on Defense. Likewise, he was on three other committees: the Standing Committee on Hybrid Threats, the Subcommittee on Migration and Asylum Policy, and the Subcommittee on Defense, Cyber, and Security Policy and Strategic Concepts of the Czech Republic. He specializes primarily in energy and international security and hybrid threats.

Before entering politics, Mr. Lipavský pursued a career in the private sector in the field of banking information technologies. He worked for companies such as McKinsey & Company, Euro RSCG, ZOOT, Total Solutions, and Moro Systems.

Mr. Lipavský was born in Prague, where he grew up and completed grammar school. He went on to graduate with a degree in International Area Studies from Charles University's Faculty of Social Sciences, Institute of International Studies. During his studies, he spent a year abroad at the University of Kent in the United Kingdom.



Mr. Christopher Cutajar, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade, Malta

Mr. Cutajar currently serves as Permanent Secretary at the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade.

Mr. Cutajar started his career in public administration in 2011, serving as the Executive Secretary of the Fgura Local Council.

Climbing through the ranks, he was appointed Permanent Secretary for Transport and Infrastructure in June 2016 and was reconfirmed in his position when new Government began its tenure. Mr. Cutajar was thereafter promoted as Permanent Secretary for Foreign and European Affairs in June 2020.

Mr. Cutajar obtained an Honours Degree in Nursing and later on pursued his studies by securing an Executive master's in business administration, both from the University of Malta.



Ms. Catherine Fearon, Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC), Deputy Head of the OSCE Secretariat

As mandated by the CiO Minister Borg, from 04 September 2024, Catherine Fearon is exercising the essential functions of the OSCE Secretary General as Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General. From January 2024, Ms. Fearon has been Director of the OSCE's Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC). She joined OSCE in June 2022 as CPC Deputy Director, where she led the Policy Support Service, overseeing the South-Eastern Europe, South Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe desks.

Previously, she worked for the European Union Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions in Kosovo (EULEX) and in Georgia (EUMM). As Special Advisor to the Civilian Operations Commander of the CSDP missions in Brussels, she worked on the CSDP missions in Ukraine, Ramallah, Rafah, Somalia, Niger, Iraq and Libya. She has also worked on rule of law issues in Afghanistan and Sudan.



As Deputy Head of the Political Department in the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ms. Fearon contributed to the implementation of the Dayton Accords, and as Head of the Mitrovica Office of the International Civilian Office in Kosovo, was responsible for implementing the Ahtisaari Plan in northern Kosovo. Prior to her international work, she was a founding member of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition (NIWC) and participated in the negotiations that led to the Good Friday Agreement. Ms. Fearon studied at Queen's University, Belfast, the University of Sarajevo, and Huddersfield University. She is the author of two books, *Women's Work: The Story of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition* (1999) and *City of Soldiers: A Year of Life and Death in Afghanistan* (2012), as well as numerous peer-reviewed articles on conflict resolution, the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, and on rule of law and democratization.

Keynote Speech

Ms. Svitlana Grynchuk, Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine

Prior to her appointment as Minister, she was Deputy Minister of Energy and Director of the Reform Support Office at the Ministry of Energy.

Ms. Grynchuk is an expert in energy, climate change and environmental protection with experience in the Government of Ukraine (CMU Secretariat, Ministry of Environment), international financial institutions (World Bank), international technical assistance projects (USAID) and participation in negotiations within the UN, Energy Community, OECD

At the Ministry of Energy Ms. Grynchuk is responsible for development and implementation of state policy in the area of alternative gas fuels, implementation and development of hydrogen energy in Ukraine, review and selection of investment and environmental projects in the area of renewable energy sources, development of smart grids, alternative gas fuels and green bonds.

She is also in charge of the organization and coordination of humanitarian aid activities in the energy sector, organization and coordination of activities within the framework of the Energy Community's Energy Support Fund for Ukraine, international relations etc. Ms. Grynchuk holds a degree in finance and economics and a PhD in economics.



Session I

“Addressing risks to sustainable economic development in light of the digital transition, thereby promoting stability and security in the OSCE region”

Moderator: Ambassador Susanne Schütz, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE

Ambassador Susanne Schütz has been the Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE since August 2023.

Before, since 2019, she was Director for South Eastern Europe, Turkey, OSCE and the Council of Europe at the German Federal Foreign Ministry in Berlin.

During the span of her diplomatic career, she also served as, among others, Ambassador to Albania (2016-2019), Deputy Head of Mission to Italy (2012-2016) and Deputy Head of Mission to Ukraine (2007-2010). Apart from that, she has held various positions in the German Federal Foreign Ministry and also served in German Embassies in Moscow and Tel Aviv.

Ambassador Schütz holds an MA-Degree from the Free University in Berlin in Slavic and American Studies.



Mr. Tine Novak



**OSCE PA Special Representative on
AI**

Mr. Tine Novak is a Slovenian politician, economist, and legal expert, serving as Vice-Chair of the Committee on Finance in Slovenia's National Assembly since May 2022, representing the Murska Sobota district with the Svoboda (Freedom) Deputy Group. He plays a key role in financial legislation, budget preparation, and is a member of several legislative committees.

With business consulting experience at the Murska Sobota Development Centre, Mr. Novak has a deep understanding of SMEs and local economic development. Currently pursuing a doctoral degree in economics, he is committed to promoting sustainable growth through innovation and strengthening international economic cooperation, particularly within the OSCE, where he leads the Slovenian delegation.

His legal expertise, supported by his education and professional examination in administrative procedure, enhances his approach to legislation and regulatory matters. Mr. Novak also serves as Vice-Chair of the strategic council for finance and economy within the Svoboda Movement, advocating for policies that support scientific research and sustainable development.

Ms. Katri Liekkila



**Head of International Relations,
National Emergency Supply Agency,
Finland**

Katri Liekkilä has worked in National Emergency Supply Agency (NESA) of Finland now for 9 years and is currently Head of International Relations.

With a background in Economics and Military Sciences, critical infrastructure resilience, global supply chains and dependencies as well as security of supply arrangements are areas of special interest to her.

Ms. Liekkila is also responsible for strategic foresight at NESA, which aims at future-proofing security of supply arrangements against both emerging and identified risks and threats.

Mr. James Sherbrock-Cox



**Deputy Head of International Tech
Department at Foreign,
Commonwealth and Development
Office, United Kingdom**

Mr. James Sherbrock-Cox is an accomplished leader with extensive experience in international technology policy, strategy and digital transformation. Currently serving as the Deputy Head of the International Tech Department at the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Mr. Sherbrock-Cox took an active part in shaping the UK's International Technology Strategy, with a focus on human rights, democracy, and international partnerships.

In 2023, he led the negotiations for the AI Safety Summit, driving the ground-breaking Bletchley Declaration, which secured agreement from the US, China, and the EU on AI safety. Additionally, Mr. Sherbrock-Cox has played a key role in the UK's contributions to global technology initiatives such as the co-chairing the NATO Transatlantic Quantum Community.

From 2020 to 2022, Mr. Sherbrock-Cox spearheaded the digital transformation of FCDO's public-facing services, establishing new crisis response systems and AI-driven services for British citizens abroad. Prior to joining FCDO, he worked in Fintech, where he developed a blockchain-based product for international currency transfers, and began his career in consulting, advising banks and government organizations on technology and innovation strategies.

Dr. Monica Cardarilli



**Project Officer at European
Commission, Joint Research Centre**

Monica Cardarilli holds a Ph.D. in Risk Engineering from the University of Rome, La Sapienza (Italy), where she gained expertise in risk assessment, management and mitigation strategies.

Since 2019, Dr. Cardarilli has been providing scientific advice to EU policy-making in the areas of security, critical infrastructure resilience and cascading effects, supporting European Commission Services, Member States and other stakeholders.

Among her duties, she coordinates international expert groups in the framework of ERNCIP to inform policy initiatives and improve collaboration between the public and private sectors.

Dr. Cardarilli's collaboration with several stakeholders has also contributed to strengthening the security-civil protection nexus, facilitating policy implementation through cross-sectoral cooperation.

She is also author and editor of several reports and publications on resilience aspects for critical infrastructure, including climate adaptation. Additionally, she contributes to the development of analytical methods and tools for impact assessment of disruptive events, as well as executing training and exercises for capacity building.

Session II

“Harnessing technological advancements to address the economic, environmental and social impacts of climate change, which may negatively affect prosperity, stability and security”

Moderator: Ambassador Hemra Amannazarov, Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the OSCE

Ambassador Amannazarov is a seasoned diplomat and oil and gas engineer with extensive experience in international relations. He graduated from the Turkmen Polytechnic Institute in 2002 with a degree in Oil and Gas Engineering.

His career began as a Laboratory Assistant at the Oil and Gas Faculty of the Turkmen Polytechnic Institute in 2004. He then progressed through various roles at the State Concern «Turkmen Gas» from 2005 to 2008, advancing from junior to senior specialist.

In 2008, Ambassador Amannazarov transitioned into diplomatic service, serving as the Second Secretary in the Americas Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. From 2011 to 2016, he was the First Secretary at the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations Office in Geneva. He continued his diplomatic career as the First Secretary at the Embassy of Turkmenistan in the United Arab Emirates from 2016 to 2019.

In 2019, he became the Director of the Department of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, a position he held until 2022. Since July 2022, he has been serving as the Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the Republic of Austria.



Ms. Veronika Hunt Šafránková



Head of Brussels Office, UNEP

Veronika Hunt Šafránková is the Head of Brussels Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), working with EU partners in addressing global environmental challenges.

Before joining UNEP, Ms. Safrankova worked in the academic sector, Charles University in Prague, as director of international relations and partnerships (2014-2019).

Prior to that Ms. Safrankova held different positions at the Czech Ministry of Environment (2000-2014), advisor, director, director general and first deputy minister, responsible for a number of areas including international relations, EU legislation, strategic and policy work in the field of environment and sustainable development, and was involved in the preparations for the accession to the EU in the environmental field, and co-ordination of the first Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU in the area of environment (2009).

Veronika led the drafting and negotiation of the Czech State Environmental Policy 2012-2020 and was a member of the governmental group on preparation of the National Reform Programme. She also successfully managed several European Union funded projects in other countries - Romania, Bulgaria, the Republic of Serbia and Ukraine.

Mr. Serge Stroobants



**Director Europe & MENA Region,
Institute for Economics and Peace**

Mr. Serge Stroobants is the Director of Europe and the MENA region and the Global Director for Security, Defence and Intelligence at the Institute for Economics and Peace. His academic specialization is in political sciences, international relations, security and defence, global risk analysis, foresight, and crisis management.

He is a visiting Professor at the Riga graduate School of Law, the Trocadero Forum Institute in Paris and the Brussels School of Governance.

Mr. Stroobants is a Senior fellow at the Irish College of the KU Leuven and a senior associate at the European Institute for Asian Studies. He is an alumnus of the International Visitors Leadership Program of the US State Department.

Ms. Angelique Pouponneau



**Policy and Strategy Advisor to the
AOSIS Chair**

Ms. Pouponneau is a lawyer and is currently pursuing a PhD examining enabling legal environments for the sustainable ocean economy in small island developing States. She holds an LLM in Environmental Law specialising in the law of the sea and natural resources law.

Before joining UNSW as a fellow, she was the Chief of Staff to the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Climate Action and Just Transitions.

She previously served as a policy and strategy adviser on ocean and climate matters to the Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States and prior to that held the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Seychelles' Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust.

Ms. Pouponneau has worked in different countries in the Caribbean, Pacific and the Indian Ocean on a wide range of projects relating to sustainable ocean economy, blue finance, and sustainable management of marine biodiversity within and beyond national jurisdiction. She serves on the advisory board of the UN Ocean Decade.

Ms. Saule Ospanova



**Senior Environmental Affairs Adviser,
Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE
Economic and Environmental
Activities (OCEEA)**

Ms. Saule Ospanova is a Senior Environmental Affairs Adviser heading the Environmental Cooperation Unit at OSCE.

She has over 20 years of experience in environment and development. Starting from her first assignments with the World Commission on Dams in South Africa and moving on to work with UN agencies, the World Bank, international think tanks such as IIED-the International Institute for Environment and Development, IISD-International Institute for Sustainable Development, on policy and programmes in water, energy, climate change and green economy, she contributed to the advancement of Environment and Security Initiative, EITI, Climate Vulnerability Indices, among others, with applications in the OSCE region and beyond. Saule is one of the co-founders of the Women in Water Network.

Her doctorate studies at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor focused on resource governance and environmental justice.

Mr. Stéphane Crouzat



**Ambassador of the French Republic to
Czech Republic, Former Ambassador
for Climate**

Mr. Stéphane Crouzat has been French Ambassador to the Czech Republic since March 2024, having presented his credentials to President Petr Pavel on 4th March.

He was previously Ambassador for Climate, France's representative for international climate negotiations (2020-2024), and France's ambassador to Ireland (2017-2020).

He was diplomatic adviser to Ségolène Royal, Minister for the Environment, Energy and the Sea (2014-2017). A graduate of Sciences-Po Paris, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on graduating from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in 2001, where he worked on European issues before being appointed Cooperation and Cultural Action Counsellor at the French Embassy in Warsaw (2005-2008) and then Press Counsellor at the Permanent Representation of France to the United Nations in New York (2008-2011).

Mr. Crouzat was also Deputy Director for Central-Eastern and Baltic Europe at the Directorate for the European Union (2011-2014).

Session III

“The importance of good governance policies and frameworks for economic growth, innovation and sustainable development, contributing to stability and security”

Moderator: Ambassador Anne-Marie Callan, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the OSCE

Ambassador Anne-Marie Callan is the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the OSCE and Chair of the OSCE’s Human Dimension Committee.

Prior to taking up her current post in December 2021, she was Director of Human Resources Abroad at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin. Previously, she was Ambassador of Ireland to the Slovak Republic (2013-2017), Deputy Director of Programme Countries in Ireland’s Development Cooperation Directorate and Head of Mission in Freetown, Sierra Leone (2009 -2011). She has held the roles of Deputy Permanent Delegate of Ireland to UNESCO and Deputy Permanent Representative of Ireland to the OECD and was Vice Chair of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in 2005.

She holds a Master’s Degree in Peace and Development from the University of Limerick and a Business Degree from Dublin City University.



Ms. Gordana Klincharova



**State Secretary, Ministry of Digital
Transformation of North Macedonia**

Ms. Gordana Klincharova graduated from the Faculty of Economics at St. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje majoring in Financial Accounting Management. She began her work experience in 2000 at the Ministry of Finance, as an independent adviser in the Treasury department; in 2001 she received a promotion within the same ministry where she became the head of a department of the Cabinet of the Minister.

In 2002 she was appointed as Director of the Agency for Blocked Accounts, and in the same year she returned to the Ministry of Finance where she became an advisor to the Minister until the end of 2003, and later moved to the private sector as Director of the Directorate at Universal Investment Bank AD Skopje and remained until 2006. In September 2006 Gordana became the Director of the Bureau for Commodity Reserves AD Skopje.

In 2009, she was appointed Secretary of the City of Skopje where she served until 2014, at which point she returned to the private sector where she remained until 2022. In January 2022, she became Head of the Financial Affairs Department at the Municipality of Aerodrom, and from July 2024 she takes up the position of State Secretary in the Ministry of Digital Transformation.

Among her regular work engagements, Ms. Klincharova has additionally been a member of the Supervisory Board of JP Municipal Hygiene, Chair of the Supervisory Board of the State Lottery, President of the Electronic Communications Agency, Financial Advisor and Researcher in Macedonia 2025.

Professor Anita Ramasastry



**Special Representative of the
OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on
Combating Corruption**

Prof. Anita Ramasastry, a U.S and Irish citizen, is the Henry M. Jackson Professor of Law and the Director of the Sustainable International Development Graduate Program at the University of Washington School of Law. She is an expert in the fields of anti-corruption, commercial law, sustainable development and business and human rights. She is one of the leading academics and a pioneer in the field of business and human rights and the linkages between corruption and human rights.

She currently serves as a member and the immediate past chair of the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights, having been appointed as rapporteur by the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2016. She leads the Working Group's thematic work on corruption.

From 2009 to 2012, Prof. Ramasastry served as a senior advisor in the International Trade Administration of the US Department of Commerce where she led a special initiative focused on anti-corruption and international trade, with engagement with APEC, the G20, the OECD, and in other multilateral fora. As of 2019, Prof. Ramasastry is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Transparency and Anti-Corruption.

Dr. Kristen Fresonke



**Senior Advisor, Coordinator for
Global Anti-Corruption, U.S.
Department of State, United States of
America**

Ms. Kris Fresonke is a senior advisor on anti-corruption in the U.S. Department of State. A diplomat for 17 years, Kris has served in Jerusalem, South Africa, Afghanistan, India, Hungary, and Slovenia. Kris received her PhD from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her BA from Columbia University.

Mr. Bart Scheffers



Independent Consultant on good governance, public sector integrity and anti-corruption, Netherlands

Before joining EUAM as the Advisor/Trainer on Good Governance in the Field Office Lviv, Mr. Scheffers worked as an international consultant specializing in anti-corruption, open government, and business climate promotion. His expertise has been sought by various international organizations, including the United Nations, OSCE, CIPE, and the Open Government Partnership, among others.

As an expert at the OSCE, Mr. Scheffers played a central role in developing and co-authoring the OSCE publication ‘Developing a positive climate for business and investment: A Best Practice Guide’.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Scheffers served as a grant-maker in a major private philanthropy, where he led initiatives focused on countering ‘state capture’. Before that, he worked at the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) in Vienna where he was working on anti-corruption training activities. He has also worked for ABN AMRO Bank in Amsterdam on security investigations, due diligence screenings of high-risk clients and monitoring unusual transactions.

A Dutch national, Mr. Scheffers holds an MA in Conflict Studies & Human Rights from Utrecht University and an MSc in Political Science from the University of Amsterdam. His academic research, which included fieldwork in Moldova and the Transdnestrian region, focused on the Europeanization of the Transdnestria conflict.

Closing session
Concluding remarks

Moderator: Ambassador Florian Raunig, Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE, Chair of the Economic and Environmental Committee

Ambassador Florian Raunig is the Permanent Representative of Austria to the OSCE and Head of Department for OSCE, Council of Europe, Inter-parliamentary Union at the Ministry for European and International Affairs.

Previously, Ambassador Raunig was Austrian Ambassador to Albania and Montenegro. He also served as Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania and as the Head of the Austrian OSCE 2017 Chairmanship Task Force.

Ambassador Raunig holds a Magister philosophiae in political science, philosophy and law studies and is fluent in German, Albanian English, French, Italian and Montenegrin.



**Ambassador Natasha Meli
Daudey**



**Chairperson of the OSCE
Permanent Council, Permanent
Representative of Malta to the
OSCE**

Ambassador Meli Daudey holds a Master's Degree in European Politics and Administration from the *Collège d'Europe* (Bruges).

She is a career diplomat. Since joining the ranks of Malta's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2001, she served as Antici at Malta's Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels (2003-2008); Deputy Ambassador of Malta to France (2008-2014) and subsequently as Deputy Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations in New York (2014-2016).

Thereafter, she was appointed Ambassador of Malta to Poland and non-resident Ambassador to Georgia, Moldova, Belarus and Armenia (2016-2018).

Since 2018, Ambassador Daudey is also serving as Malta's Ambassador to Austria and as Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Vienna.

Ms. Deborah M. Borg



**Deputy Permanent
Representative of Malta to the
OSCE**

Ms. Borg holds a Master's Degree in Diplomatic Studies from the University of Malta.

She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta in 2010, as a career diplomat, within the Directorate General for European and Economic Affairs. Since then, Ms Borg has served at Malta's Permanent Representation to the United Nations in Geneva (2011-2014) and the Embassy of Malta to France (2014-2017).

Following a stint within the Directorate for European Affairs in Valletta (2017-2019), Ms Borg served at Malta's High Commission to the United Kingdom (2019-2021). Between 2021 and 2023, Ms Borg was the Head of Unit responsible for South Eastern Europe at the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade.

Since May 2023, she has been serving at Malta's diplomatic representation in Vienna, as Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission.

Ambassador Bakyt Dzhusupov



Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Ambassador Bakyt Dzhusupov joined the OSCE as the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in February 2024.

With now almost 20 years of experience, he first joined the diplomatic service in 2008 as Attaché in the Department of Eastern Countries of the Kyrgyz Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From 2010 to 2017, Ambassador Dzhusupov held various positions in the Presidential Administration, Office of the Government Administration and Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, including Deputy Head of Foreign Policy Department.

In 2017, he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Republic of Austria and Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the OSCE and other international organizations in Vienna. In this capacity, he co-chaired the OSCE Group of Friends of Youth and Security, took up membership at the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and included Kyrgyzstan in the UNIDO Programme for Country Partnership. He also served as Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

Prior to joining the OSCE, Ambassador Dzhusupov was Director of the International Organizations Department at the Kyrgyz Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where he dealt with issues of co-operation with the UN, the OSCE and other international organizations.

Ambassador Vesa Häkkinen



**Permanent Representative
Finland to the OSCE**

Mr. Vesa Häkkinen is the Permanent Representative of Finland to the OSCE, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, since September 2021.

Before his current position he served as Ambassador of Finland to Iraq, in Baghdad (2019–2021). He has served also in Poland, Sweden and Russia. He was the Director for Current Affairs Communications in the MFA 2014–2019. Mr. Häkkinen has worked for the Finnish Foreign Ministry since 1999.

Before joining the Foreign Service, he worked as Secretary General in Finnish Alliance of Estonian Friendship NGOs and as freelance journalist.

Mr. Häkkinen was born in Lohja, Finland, in 1969. He graduated from the University of Helsinki in 1996 with a Master's in Political Science (Political History). His military rank is sergeant.

Mr. Häkkinen is married. In his free time, he is an active reader.