

## INSTITUTIONAL SPEAKERS

### INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

**Athene LAWS**

*Economist within the Regional Studies-Research Division of the Africa Department at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)*

Athene Laws contributes her expertise in labor economics, applied econometrics, and micro-to-macro analysis. A participant in the IMF's Economist Program since September 2020, she has also collaborated on significant projects, including a Selected Issues Paper with Can Sever on revamping the WAEMU fiscal framework. Laws' academic background includes a PhD and a Masters in Economic Research from the University of Cambridge, and a BA (Hons) in Economics & International Relations from Victoria University of Wellington.

**Atish Rex GHOSH**

*IMF Historian and Deputy Director within the Strategic, Policy, and Review Department*

Formerly Assistant Professor of Economics and International Affairs, Princeton University, Atish Rex Ghosh holds degrees from Oxford University and Harvard University. He has published numerous articles in international economics, finance, and public policy, as well as authored four books: *Economic Cooperation in an Uncertain World* (Blackwell, 1994); *Exchange Rate Regimes: Choices and Consequences* (MIT Press, 2003); *Currency Boards in Retrospect and Prospect* (MIT Press, 2008); and *Nineteenth Street, NW* (Greenleaf, 2010)—a novel about a global financial crash



**Giovanni MELINA**

*Deputy Division Chief, Structural and Climate Policy Division*

Giovanni Melina previously worked in the IMF's African Department as a senior desk economist in the Uganda team, after spending several years in the IMF's Research Department as an economist. Before joining the Fund, he worked as an Associate Professor of Macroeconomics at City University London, after obtaining a PhD in Economics from Birkbeck, University of London. His research focuses on the design of monetary and fiscal policies, climate economics, and structural issues.



**Julie KOZACK**

*Head of the Communications Department (COM) at the International Monetary Fund*

As Director of the Communications Department, Ms. Julie Kozack is responsible for IMF strategy on external engagements with media and the Fund's key stakeholders, including legislatures and parliaments, labor representatives, civil society groups, and academics, as well as the Fund's internal communications. The Director works closely with the Managing Director and senior IMF management on the communication of the institution's operations, including policy and lending decisions. Ms. Kozack was previously a Deputy Director in the European Department (EUR), where she oversaw the IMF's work on Ukraine. Prior to that, she was a Deputy Director in the Western Hemisphere Department (WHD) and lead negotiator for Argentina on its program. Ms. Kozack has also worked in the Fund's Research and Strategy and Policy Review Departments. She has been mission chief for Germany, Iceland (during the crisis program period), Lithuania, Poland, and deputy mission chief for Russia. Ms. Kozack was heavily involved in multilateral surveillance work, particularly on G20 and G7 engagement at the time of the global financial crisis. Ms. Kozack further leveraged her leadership and communications expertise in her three-year role as the Director of the Singapore Regional Training Institute,

	<p>demonstrating her seasoned managerial and leadership skills, running an independent institute away from headquarters with a mix of headquarter, local, and expert staff. She oversaw the delivery of training and capacity development to the Asia-Pacific region and broadened the understanding of the Fund by engaging with parliamentarians in the region through workshops and other training forums, as well as public and press engagements. Ms. Kozack, a United States national, holds a PhD as well as two master's degrees in economics from Columbia University, New York. She earned a BA from Rutgers University.</p>
	<p><b>Kristalina GEORGIEVA</b>  <i>Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund</i></p> <p>Kristalina Georgieva has served as Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund since 2019 and began her second term in 2024. In her first term, Ms. Georgieva led the IMF's response to multiple global shocks: the pandemic, war, and an inflation surge. During that time, the IMF injected about \$1 trillion in reserves and liquidity, including through a historic \$650 billion allocation of SDRs, and engaged in lending to nearly 100 member countries. It adopted a first-ever climate strategy and created the Fund's first long-term lending instrument – the Resilience and Sustainability Trust. In 2023, the IMF completed its 16th Review of Quota, resulting in an agreement to increase quota shares of member countries by 50 percent. Ms. Georgieva's tenure at the IMF has also been marked by progress on diversity, equity and inclusion, including the addition of a third Sub-Saharan African Chair to the IMF Board and increased regional diversity and gender balance among IMF management and staff. Before joining the IMF, Ms. Georgieva was CEO of the World Bank. Previously, Ms. Georgieva served as European Commission Vice President for Budget and Human Resources overseeing the EU's €161 billion (US \$175bn) budget and 33,000 staff, as well as the EU's response to the Euro Area debt crisis and the 2015 refugee crisis. Before that, she was Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid</p>

	<p>and Crisis Response, managing one of the world's largest humanitarian aid budgets. Ms. Georgieva serves on many international panels including as co-Chair of the Global Commission on Adaptation, co-chair of the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing, a member of the Board of Trustees of the World Economic Forum and a member of the Steering Committee of the Paris Peace Forum. She has authored and co-authored over 100 publications on environmental and economic policy, including textbooks on macro- and microeconomics. Her early career included numerous senior roles at the World Bank after starting as an environmental economist in 1993. Born in Bulgaria and holding a Ph.D. in Economic Science, she has published extensively and received multiple international awards for her leadership and contributions to global cooperation.</p>
	<p><b>Ranjit SINGH</b>  <i>Assistant Director within the Monetary and Capital Markets Department</i></p> <p>Ranjit Singh advises the IMF and governments on financial stability, market regulation and ESG risk. He is an experienced international policymaker and former academic with 25 years of experience in capital market development, policy, and regulation focusing on Emerging Markets countries and Asia. Ranjit is trained as a financial economist and accountant. He holds a Bachelor of Economics (Honors) degree and a Master of Economics degree in Finance from Monash University, Melbourne. He was also conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa by Monash University, Melbourne. He is a fellow of CPA Australia and has worked in academia, consulting and accounting in Australia and Malaysia.</p>

## UNITE



### **Ricardo B. LEITE**

*Former MP, Portugal; CEO of HealthAI; President and Founder Unite Parliamentarians Network for Global Health*

Mr. Leite is CEO of HealthAI, a nonprofit organization focused on expanding countries' capacity to regulate artificial intelligence in health. He is a medical doctor trained in infectious diseases with extensive experience in global health and science-based policymaking. He is a former Member of the Portuguese Parliament and founder and President of the UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health, a network of current and former policymakers from 110 countries.

## WORLD BANK GROUP




### **Ajay BANGA**

*President of the World Bank Group*

Ajay Banga is the President of the World Bank Group, beginning his five-year term on June 2, 2023. He stepped into the role with a clear mandate: to transform the 80-year-old institution into a faster, more efficient, and more impactful partner in development.


Since taking office, Ajay has led the adoption of a new vision and mission for the World Bank: to create a world free of poverty—on a livable planet. Under his leadership, the Bank has undertaken a broad set of reforms to boost lending capacity, simplify operations, and deliver development solutions that are practical, scalable, and impactful. He has prioritized a more agile institution—one that is easier to work with and focused on getting results.

At the core of Ajay's agenda is a belief that job creation is the most powerful driver of development—offering not just income, but dignity and purpose. That conviction has helped shape new efforts to connect 300 million Africans to electricity by 2030, expand access to quality and affordable healthcare for 1.5 billion people, and develop a modern approach to agribusiness that can drive growth, improve food security, and create economic opportunity.

	<p>Ajay has also brought renewed focus to harnessing the power of the private sector. He has strengthened collaboration with development partners, philanthropies, and investors, and launched the Private Sector Investment Lab—bringing together leading CEOs and asset managers to tackle the barriers holding back private capital in emerging markets. His approach reflects a fundamental shift: development progress at scale cannot be achieved without the innovation, financing, and execution capabilities of the private sector.</p> <p>Prior to joining the World Bank, Ajay was Vice Chairman at General Atlantic and, before that, President and CEO of Mastercard. There, he led a global workforce of nearly 24,000 and made financial inclusion a core part of the company’s strategy. He also founded the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth to advance equitable and sustainable economic opportunity.</p> <p>Ajay’s leadership extends beyond the private sector. He served as Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce (2020–2022), and has held board roles with the American Red Cross, Kraft Foods, and Dow Inc. He is also a co-founder of the Cyber Readiness Institute. His contributions have earned wide recognition, including the Singapore Public Service Star award (2022), the Padma Shri from the President of India (2016), the Foreign Policy Association Medal (2012), and the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.</p>
	<p><b>Axel VAN TROTSENBURG</b>  <i>Senior Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships</i></p> <p>Axel Van Trotsenburg directs the World Bank’s core development work captured by its five verticals – People, Planet, Prosperity, Infrastructure and Digital Transformation – and ensures its integration into operations, with a special focus on climate change, fragility, human capital, and debt sustainability issues. He currently co-leads the Evolution Roadmap aimed at increasing the scale and impact of World Bank operations and oversees the Bank’s numerous partnerships including with the UN, international financial institutions (IFIs), and bilateral partners. Prior to this, Mr. van</p>



	<p>Trotsenburg was the Managing Director of Operations for 3.5 years, from October 2019 to April 2023. He holds a master's and a Doctorate degree in Economics and a master's degree in international Affairs.</p>
	<p><b>Christine QIANG</b>  <i>Global Director of Digital Core at the Digital Transformation Vice Presidency</i></p> <p>Christine Qiang leads a team focused on establishing the foundations and enablers necessary for digital transformation in developing countries, aiming to drive shared prosperity and reduce poverty. Her team advises policymakers and regulators, collaborates with private sector and development partners, and designs investment and technical assistance programs to expand broadband connectivity, strengthen digital safeguards such as cybersecurity and data protection, and harness AI and emerging technologies to tackle development challenges. Additionally, the team works to leverage digital technologies to promote environmental sustainability and close the digital gender gap.</p> <p>Christine joined the World Bank Group in 1998. Before assuming her current role, she served as the Director of the Digital Development Global Practice, Practice Manager in the Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation (FCI) Global Practice for West and Central Africa, Practice Manager of the Global Investment Climate unit in FCI, and Practice Manager of the Global Investment and Competition Unit in the Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment (MTI) Global Practice. She also held the position of Lead Economist at the Policy Division of the Global ICT Department.</p> <p>During her tenure, Christine edited the first two Global Information and Communications Reports (2006, 2009) and oversaw the publication of the first two Global Investment Competitiveness Reports (2017/18 and 2019/20) as well as the first two Digital Trends and Policies Reports (2023 and 2025). She has authored many journal articles, book chapters, reports and blogs on topics including AI,</p>

	<p>cybersecurity, broadband investment, private sector development, IT-enabled services, trade, foreign direct investment, competition, regulatory reforms, productivity and competitiveness.</p> <p>Christine holds a Ph.D. in Economics and a master's in computer science and engineering from the Johns Hopkins University.</p>
	<p><b>Jay HEIMBACH</b>  <i>Vice-President of External Corporate Relations</i></p> <p>James “Jay” Heimbach leads the team responsible for stakeholder relations, partnerships, and communications at the World Bank. His role focuses on developing advocacy strategies to communicate the Bank’s impact, shape public opinion on global development issues, and build support among key stakeholders. Jay brings extensive experience in global cooperation for local progress, having served as the World Bank’s Special Representative to North America, Australia, New Zealand, and Israel, where he managed relationships with key donor governments. Before joining the World Bank, Jay was Senior Director for North American Government Affairs at the ONE Campaign, a global advocacy organization combating extreme poverty. He also has significant experience in U.S. government roles, including Chief of Staff to Senator Sherrod Brown and Special Assistant to President Obama, where he worked on energy, environmental, and manufacturing issues. Earlier, he served in the Clinton administration as Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. Jay holds a B.A. from Colby College and a J.D. from Boston University School of Law.</p>





**Nathalie Kouassi AKON**

*Global Director, Gender & Economic Inclusion, IFC*

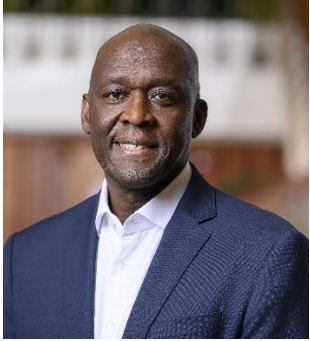
Nathalie Kouassi Akon joined IFC as Global Director of Gender & Economic Inclusion Department in September 2023. Nathalie, an American and Ivorian national, was earlier the Executive Director at Mastercard Foundation. She was responsible for the Pan-Africa platform, leading enterprise-wide the four programmatic thematic areas of Gender, Entrepreneurship Development, Digital Economy and Agrifood Systems and Climate.

She previously held the role of the Regional Director, overseeing the Foundation's expansion into West, Central and Northern Africa, leading a large team across the region, and setting the overall strategic direction and framing for programming in line with the Foundation's values and priorities.

Prior to joining the Mastercard Foundation, Nathalie was a Partner & Managing Director Africa of Equator Capital Partners, an impact investment fund manager, where she supervised the Africa investment team throughout the investment process including origination, structuring and negotiation, investment committee proposals and board representation.

Nathalie served as an independent director on leading African banks, and as Chair of the investment committee of the private sector facility of the African Development Bank Group. She was also listed in the 100 most influential women in the 2022 publication by Advance Media.

Nathalie holds a Master of Management in Strategy and a Minor in Finance from Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Paris, France.

**Makhtar DIOP**

*Managing Director of the International Finance Corporation*

Makhtar Diop is the Managing Director of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the largest development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Since taking office on March 1, 2021, Diop has championed private sector-driven development to align with the World Bank Group's mission of reducing poverty and promoting shared prosperity. His leadership has emphasized sustainable and inclusive growth, particularly addressing challenges like poverty, inequality, and climate change. Diop has prioritized scaling investments in critical sectors such as infrastructure, digital economy, healthcare, and renewable energy. He advocates for innovative financing solutions, including blended finance and public-private partnerships, to attract private capital to high-impact projects. This approach has enabled the IFC to mobilize billions in investment, especially in regions with limited capital access and those affected by conflict. A strong advocate for financial inclusion, Diop focuses on expanding access to financial services for women, small businesses, and rural communities, while advancing digital transformation through investments in fintech and digital infrastructure. He has also significantly increased IFC's commitment to climate action, supporting green finance initiatives that reduce carbon emissions and enhance climate resilience. Before leading the IFC, Diop served as the World Bank's Vice President for Infrastructure and Africa. His career spans both public and private sectors, having served as Senegal's Minister of Economy and Finance.

**Norman LOAYZA**

*Director of the Global Indicators Group*


Norman Loayza currently supervises the flagship data and reports, Women, Business and the Law, Enterprise Surveys, Global and Subnational Business Ready, the successor to the discontinued Doing Business.

Previously, he was a Lead Economist in the Development Research Group and managed the Asia hub of the Research Group, based in Malaysia. He was director of the World Development Report 2014, Risk and Opportunity: Managing Risk for

	<p>Development. His research has dealt with various areas of economic and social development, including macroeconomic management, economic growth, microeconomic flexibility, private and public saving, financial depth and stability, natural disasters, and crime and violence. His advisory experience at the World Bank has also ranged across different topics in various regions and countries. A few examples include business environment and economic performance in Latin America; informal and formal labor markets in the Middle East and Northern Africa; public infrastructure gaps in Pakistan and Egypt; savings for macroeconomic stability and growth in Sri Lanka, Georgia, and Egypt; and pro-poor growth in Indonesia and Peru. On external service from the World Bank, he was a Senior Economist at the Central Bank of Chile (1999-2000), where he advised on financial and monetary policy.</p> <p>Norman has edited 10 books and published dozens of papers in professional journals and edited volumes. A Peruvian national, he holds a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University (1994).</p>
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## MP SPEAKERS


### ALGERIA

	<p><b>Salim MERAH</b>  <i>Member of Parliament, President of the Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, and Emigration Committee, People's National Assembly, Algeria</i></p> <p>Hon. Salim Merah is a Member of Parliament in Algeria, serving as the President of the Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, and Emigration Committee at the People's National Assembly. In this capacity, he plays a pivotal role in shaping Algeria's foreign policy, fostering international cooperation, and addressing emigration-related matters.</p> <p>Under his leadership, the committee has been instrumental in establishing parliamentary friendship groups with various countries, including</p>
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	<p>Zambia and Slovenia, to strengthen bilateral relations and promote cooperation in economic, political, and social spheres.</p> <p>Hon. Merah has also been actively involved in discussions on renewable energy initiatives, such as Algeria's investments in blue and green hydrogen, as well as solar energy projects, reflecting his commitment to sustainable development and international collaboration.</p> <p>Through his work, Hon. Merah continues to advocate for policies that enhance Algeria's global standing, focusing on diplomacy, cooperation, and sustainable development.</p>
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## CANADA

	<p><b>Tony LOFFREDA</b>  <i>Senator; Chair of Canada Chapter of the PN</i></p> <p>Hon. Tony Loffreda was appointed to the Senate of Canada in 2019 by the Governor General of Canada on the advice of the Prime Minister.</p> <p>He currently sits on the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance and the Standing Senate Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration. He also serves as Deputy Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade, and the Economy. Senator Loffreda also serves on several Senate Working Groups. He is a member of various parliamentary associations and interparliamentary groups, including serving as Vice-Chair of the Canada-</p>
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	<p>Italy Interparliamentary Group and Chair of the Canadian Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. He is a member of the Independent Senators Group.</p> <p>Prior to his appointment, Senator Loffreda was a Vice Chairman and Executive at RBC. He has also served on various boards and committees including, but not limited to, the Concordia University Board of Governors; the Integrated Health and Social Services University Network for West-Central Montréal; Montréal International; the Italian-Canadian Community Foundation; the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada; and the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montréal.</p> <p>Among his many awards and distinctions, he is a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor of Québec's Gold Medal for Exceptional Merit; the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal; the Governor General of Canada Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers; the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association's Person of the Year Award; the Philhellene of the Year Award by the Hellenic Community of Greater Montréal; and the Senate of Canada 150th Anniversary Medal which he received prior to his appointment. He was also inducted as an administrator into the Montréal-Concordia Soccer Hall of Fame.</p>
	<p><b>Kevin VUONG</b>  <i>Member of Parliament, Canada</i></p> <p>Hon. Kevin Vuong is a Canadian politician and Member of Parliament for Spadina—Fort York, representing the Liberal Party. He was elected to the House of Commons in 2021, focusing on economic development and social equity.</p> <p>Before entering politics, Hon. Vuong co-founded a technology company and worked in community</p>

	<p>development. He has also served as a reservist in the Canadian Navy.</p> <p>Hon. Vuong has been active in initiatives aimed at improving public spaces and enhancing accessibility in Canadian urban centers. In Parliament, he advocates for policies that promote sustainable growth and inclusive communities.</p>
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## ESTONIA




### **Annely AKKERMANN**

*Member of Parliament, Estonia*

Hon. Annely Akkermann is an Estonian politician and economist, representing the Reform Party in the Estonian Parliament (Riigikogu). Akkermann's career in politics spans over two decades, with significant contributions in local and national government. She began her career as the Mayor of Kihnu Municipality from 2005 to 2009, followed by her role as the Deputy Mayor of Pärnu from 2009 to 2011. In 2011, she was first elected to the Riigikogu, where she was re-elected in 2019, building a reputation for her work in economic and fiscal policy.

Akkermann was appointed as the Minister of Finance on October 19, 2022, in Prime Minister Kaja Kallas's government, where she focused on strengthening the country's financial management and addressing key economic challenges. Before serving as Minister, she had an extensive career in public service, working in various board roles in companies and non-governmental organizations, particularly in the areas of economics and governance.



<b>GHANA</b>	
	<p><b>Kofi Arko NOKOE</b>  <i>Member of Parliament, Evalue-Ajomoro-Gwira Constituency, Ghana</i></p> <p>Hon. Kofi Arko Nokoe is a Ghanaian politician representing the Evalue-Ajomoro-Gwira Constituency. He was first elected to the 8th Parliament of the 4th Republic of Ghana in the 2020 elections and was re-elected in the 2024 general elections, continuing his commitment to serving his constituents.</p> <p>He is a member of the Special Budget Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee in Parliament. Hon. Nokoe focuses on legislative policies that promote infrastructure development, improve education, and strengthen healthcare services within his constituency.</p> <p>Through his work, Hon. Nokoe advocates for sustainable economic development and social progress, ensuring that his region benefits from key national initiatives.</p>
<b>INDONESIA</b>	
	<p><b>Ravindra AIRLANGGA</b>  <i>Member of Parliament, West Java V, Indonesia</i></p> <p>Hon. Ravindra Airlangga is an Indonesian politician and Member of Parliament for West Java V, representing the Golkar Party. He was appointed to the House of Representatives in 2022. Ravindra holds a Master of Science degree from Johns Hopkins University and has been actively involved in parliamentary work, focusing on economic and social policy.</p> <p>He is also the Vice Chairman of the Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Agency (BKSAP) in the Indonesian Parliament, strengthening diplomatic ties and contributing to international relations.</p>

	<p>Through his political career, Ravindra continues to advocate for policies that support economic development, social progress, and the strengthening of Indonesia's global partnerships.</p>
<b>ITALY</b>	
	<p><b>Giulio CENTEMERO</b>  <i>Member of Parliament, Italy; President of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Standing Committee on Socio-economic and environmental affairs, Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean (PAM)</i></p> <p>Hon. Giulio Centemero is a member of the Chamber of Deputies at the VI Finance Committee, coordinator of the financial markets unit of the Economics Department of the Lega and Treasurer of the party since 2014. He is a member of the Italian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM).</p> <p>He is a Chartered Accountant and Statutory Auditor, with a degree in economics and commerce from the University of Bergamo and an executive Master in PA management from SDA Bocconi as well as a graduate certificate in Project management from Boston University.</p> <p>Hon. Centemero trained professionally in tax M&amp;A and at the same time consolidated his political experience in the European parliament together with Matteo Salvini. He is also co-chairman of the economic panel of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, a member of the executive board of the International Parliamentary Network for Education and president of the parliamentary intergroup of Friendship Italy - Armenia.</p> <p>He has published interviews and articles in generalist and financial sector magazines and channels. His greatest interest lies in fintech and alternative capital markets.</p>

<b>JAMAICA</b>	
	<p><b>Marlene MALAHOO FORTE</b>  <i>QC, MP, JP, Minister of Legal and Constitutional Affairs, Jamaica; Vice-Chair of the Parliamentary Network</i></p> <p>Hon. Marlene Malahoo Forte was appointed Minister of Legal and Constitutional Affairs in January 2022. She is a Member of Parliament who has served in both Houses of Parliament of Jamaica. She previously served as Opposition Senator Senate Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (2012 - 2014) and Shadow Minister of Health (2015 - 2016). She is the former Attorney General of Jamaica where she served from 2016 to 2022. Hon. Forte holds a Master of Public Administration (MPA) Degree and Diploma in Public Policy and Management from Harvard University, a Master of Law (LLM) Degree in Commercial Laws with further specialty in Financial and Regulatory Laws (Commonwealth Scholar) from King's College London, a Bachelor of Laws Degree (LLB) (Hons) from the University of the West Indies in Barbados, a Certificate of Legal Education from the Norman Manley Law School (Jamaica) and Diploma in International Arbitration and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in London. She is also a Yale World Fellow and alum of Yale University.</p>
<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	



**Sven CLEMENT**

*Member of Parliament, Justice Committee,  
Luxembourg*

Hon. Sven Clement is a Member of Parliament from Luxembourg and co-founder and honorary president of the Pirate Party Lëtzebuerg. He is a member of the Justice Committee, of the Committee on Health and Social Security, of the Commission on the Economy, SMEs, Energy, Space, and Tourism, and of the Subcommittee on European Affairs.

Clement studied business informatics at Saarland University, where he also represented the Pirate Party in the university's student parliament. Together with his party colleague Jerry Weyer, he runs a digital communications consultancy company. Following the general election on 14 October 2018, Sven Clement was elected to the Chamber of Deputies for the central constituency on 30 October 2018. Since 14 September 2020, he has also been CEO of AccountTech SARL bringing together several products in FinTech and RegTech.

**MEXICO**



**Cynthia Lopez CASTRO**

*Senator, Mexico*

Cynthia López Castro was a member of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies from 2018 to 2024. She was elected senator in the June 2024 Mexican elections. Since March 2023, she has been president of the Inter-Parliamentary Union's (IPU) Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, which aims to drive forward the gender equality agenda, women's rights, and empowerment. López Castro was first elected at the age of twenty-eight as a member of the Congress of Mexico City serving from 2015 to 2018. In 2017, at the age of thirty, she participated in the drafting of a new Constitution for Mexico City, and she was one of the main proponents of


	<p>the inclusion of a youth quota in the city's electoral law.</p> <p>A youth-rights advocate, she was one of the promoters of constitutional reform in Mexico in 2023, advocating the reduction of the age at which people could stand for election, changing it from twenty-one to eighteen. A member of the IPU since 2018, she has been a member of the board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians. In 2022, López Castro was awarded the IPU's first Cremer-Passy Prize at the 145th IPU Assembly in Kigali, Rwanda. The prize is awarded to parliamentarians who make an outstanding contribution to the defense and promotion of the IPU's objectives, as well as to those who contribute to a more united, fair, secure, sustainable, and equitable world. She holds a PhD in public administration and a certificate on public leadership from the Harvard Kennedy School. She also holds a master's degree in government and politics from George Washington University. She is currently enrolled in a second master's program on anticorruption at the International Anti-Corruption Academy in Austria.</p>
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## MOROCCO

	<p><b>Neila TAZI</b>  <i>Senator, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Chamber of Councilors, Morocco</i></p> <p>Hon. Neila Tazi has been a Senator in the Moroccan House of Counselors since 2015, where she was the first woman Vice-President of the Senate from 2016 to 2018, and the first to chair plenary sessions. She also serves as the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the Chamber of Councilors.</p> <p>She was born in Washington DC where her father was an Executive Director at the World Bank in the late 1960s, giving her a life-long connection to the World Bank. She is the Chair of the Moroccan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network (PN) and</p>
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	frequently plays an active role in PN global and regional activities. Ms. Tazi was elected as President of the Federation of Cultural and Creative Industries in February 2019. In 1998 she founded the Essaouira Gnaoua and World Music Festival.
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## UNITED KINGDOM

	<p><b>Liam BYRNE</b>  <i>Member of Parliament; Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF</i></p> <p>The Rt Hon. Liam Byrne MP is a Member of Parliament for Birmingham Hodge Hill, Chair of the Parliamentary Network of the IMF &amp; World Bank, and Gwilym Gibbon Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford.</p> <p>A former Cabinet minister, Liam served as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in No 10 Downing Street during the Great Financial Crisis, and in Her Majesty's Treasury where, as Chief Secretary to the Treasury, he designed Labour's fiscal consolidation strategy. In Opposition, Liam served in a number of frontbench positions, chaired Labour's Policy Review, served on the Council of Europe and founded the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Inclusive Growth, which he chairs.</p> <p>A former Fulbright scholar at the Harvard Business School, Liam has written twenty books, chapters and pamphlets about economic history, development and foreign affairs. His history of British capitalism <i>Dragons: Ten Entrepreneurs Who Built Britain</i> was published in 2016. He is also the author of <i>Black Flag Down: Counter Extremism, Defeating ISIS and Winning the Battle of Ideas</i>; and <i>Turning to Face the East: How Britain Prospers in the Asian Century</i>. Liam is one of Westminster's leading authorities on China, helped kickstart the Economic &amp; Finance</p>
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	Dialogue, and co-founded the UK-China Young Leader's Roundtable.
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## ZAMBIA

	<p><b>Sibeso Kakoma SEFULO</b>  <i>Member of Parliament, Mwandi Constituency, Zambia</i></p> <p>Hon. Sibeso Kakoma Sefulo is a Zambian politician and Member of Parliament for Mwandi Constituency, representing the United Party for National Development (UPND). She has over 16 years of experience as an accountant with international NGOs and served as the Managing Director of Queens Bee Products, a Zambian beekeeping company.</p> <p>Elected to the National Assembly in 2021, Hon. Sefulo has been actively involved in parliamentary committees, particularly in the areas of national economy, trade, and labor. She is committed to early childhood development and addressing issues such as early marriages and teenage pregnancies.</p> <p>Sefulo represents Zambia at the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States-European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly and was re-elected to the Bureau in 2024.</p>
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