



Ambassador Julien Guerrier spent over 30 years in EU Institutions, focusing on trade negotiations, industrial and research policy, and corporate management. Before Vietnam, he led the EU's research and innovation programme, Horizon Europe, and previously headed the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation in Tokyo (2008-2011) and the European Agency for SMEs (2017-2020). He graduated from Ecole Polytechnique and Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées and holds an MBA.



Ambassador Ha Hoang Hai has extensive experience in European affairs, particularly Central and Eastern Europe, with 20 years in Viet Nam's diplomatic service. He has held various senior positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Head of the Central and Eastern Europe Division and Deputy Director-General of the Europe Department. He previously held diplomatic assignments at the Embassy of Viet Nam in Poland from 2013 to 2017. He has been Ambassador of Viet Nam to Poland, concurrently accredited to Lithuania, since May 2024. He holds a Master's in Business Management, a Master's in Law, and a PhD in Economics from Poland.



George Papaconstantinou holds the Chair of International Political economy at the School of Transnational Governance of the European University Institute. He is an economist who holds a PhD from the London School of Economics and has served government at the highest level, as Greece's Finance Minister during the Greek and Eurozone crisis, and subsequently Minister of Environment and Energy. In the earlier part of his career, he was a senior economist at the OECD. Since leaving public office, his work has focused on economic and financial policy-related analysis and governance issues. He has recently published 'New World, New Rules: Global Cooperation in a World of Geopolitical Rivalries' (with Jean Pisani-Ferry), where he explored emerging global governance arrangements and collective action in key policy areas.



Dr Arnaud Leveau is the President of Asia Centre, an independent French think tank, founded in 2005, that specializes in Indo-Pacific geopolitics, economics, and international relations. He is the Founder of Alta Strategies, a strategic advisory and policy consulting firm operating across Europe and the Indo-Pacific region. He is also He has nearly 30 years of practical experience working in the Indo/Asia-Pacific region, across industry (Airbus, Danone), governmental affairs, institutional relations, think tanks, and strategic consulting. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the East Asia Institute of the École Normale Supérieure in France. His research has notably been supported by the Korea Foundation and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. He is the author of numerous publications on the Korean Peninsula, Thailand, Southeast Asia, as well as on defence and security issues in the Indo-Pacific region. He also teaches at Paris Dauphine PSL University.



Ambassador Antonio Bernardini is the Chief of Staff of the International Renewable Energy Agency. Prior to joining IRENA, Mr. Bernardini held several high-level roles in diplomacy and international governance. His diplomatic career includes key economic and multilateral postings in New York, Tokyo, Geneva, Brussels, New Delhi, and Rome. In 2023, he served as Special Ambassador for Rome's candidature for EXPO 2030 and Special Envoy for Italy's Presidency of the OECD Ministerial Council. From 2020 to 2022, he was an Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Italy to International Organizations in Paris, including Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and International Energy Agency (IEA), and co-chaired the OECD-MENA Governance Program in 2020. Previously, he served as Ambassador to Brazil and non-resident Ambassador to Suriname, (2016-2020), and Deputy Secretary-General of Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Member of the Board of Directors (2013-2016).



Timothy Suljada leads the Resources, Rights and Development Division at the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and is responsible for the institute's engagement with EU policy. He previously worked in Viet Nam with UNDP and the International Centre for Environmental Management, supporting government programs on climate change, energy and water. His work focuses on green industrial policy, sustainable investment and EU–international cooperation.



Aleksander Surdej is an economist specializing in public policy analysis. From September 1, 2016, to October 31, 2023, he served as ambassador, Poland's Permanent Representative to the OECD (www.oecd.org) and Dean of OECD Ambassadors from June 2, 2021, until the end of his mission. In the years 2023–2024, he was Poland's Ambassador to Vietnam.

He studied at the University of Economics in Krakow, Jagiellonian University, SAIS Johns Hopkins University, and the European University Institute. Aleksander Surdej completed academic internships and conducted research, among others, at EUI (Italy), NIAS (Netherlands), UNU WIDER (Finland), Bocconi (Italy), and the University of Ancona.

Before taking up diplomatic duties, he was a professor at the Cracow University of Economics and head of the Department of European Studies (from 2007 to 2016) at the same university. His research interests focus on the methodology of public policy analysis, economic and social regulations, as well as international trade and investment policy. He is the author of several books in Polish, such as: *Czynnik determinujący administracyjne i prawne regulacje w gospodarce* (2006), *Analiza ekonomiczna w polityce publicznej* (2012), *Ewaluacja w polityce gospodarczej* (2013), as well as many chapters in volumes published in Polish or English. His latest publications are:

Surdej, A. (2026) *Przedsiębiorstwa rodzinne w międzypokoleniowej perspektywie rozwoju gospodarczego*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Ekonomicznego w Krakowie, Kraków.

Surdej A. (2025). *Creating External Impacts: the Case of IUU Regulation and the EU Yellow Card Policy Conditionality*. *Horyzonty Polityki*, vol. 16, nr 56, s. 53-74.

Surdej A., Mongiało D. (2023). *Funkcjonowanie i przyszłość G20 w erze geopolitycznych napięć początku XXI wieku* [W:] Jasiuk E. & Chochowska A. (red.), *Budowanie poczucia bezpieczeństwa w czasach pandemii oraz zagrożenia terroryzmem i wojną* (s. 22-60) Uczelnia Łazarskiego w Warszawie.



Sebastian Bobowski is a Professor at the Wroclaw University of Economics and Business, specializing in international trade, economic integration, global and regional value chains, innovation and productivity in Asia and Europe. He is a member of the Asia-Pacific Research Center and a former Board member of the European Association for Southeast Asian Studies (EuroSEAS), representing Central Europe. His recent co-authored books published by Taylor & Francis include "Regional Cooperation and Resilience in East Asia" (2024), "Sustainable Development in East Asia" (2026), and "Innovation Efficiency in the EU – Policy Implications" (2026). He is the author or co-author of 31 books and 105 scientific papers.