

Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence

European and Eurasian Studies Program



Contemporary and Future Perspectives of Transatlantic Relations **A Panel Discussion with the Representatives from the European Union**

Florida International University – Modesto A. Maidique Campus |11200 SW 8th Street – Miami, FL 33199
SIPA 220

Participants: Biographical Notes

Thursday, December 5, 2019



Peter Van De Velde
Chairman of COLAC and COTRA

He started his diplomatic career in 1990 at the Foreign Ministry of Belgium. He served in Kinshasa, at the Permanent Representation to the United Nations in New York, in Lisbon and the Permanent Representation to the European Union in Brussels.

At the Belgian Foreign Ministry in Brussels he was Communications Director, Trade Policy Director and Americas Director. He also served as Deputy Security Policy Director.

He joined the European External Action Service (EEAS) when it was created in 2011 and worked at the European Union Intelligence and Situation Centre (INTCEN) as Deputy Head of the EU Situation Room. He re-joined the EEAS in 2017 as Chairman of COLAC (Council Working Party for Latin America & the Caribbean) and COTRA (Council Working Party for trans-Atlantic Affairs)

He holds Master's Degrees in Conference Interpreting and e-Business. Apart from his mother tongue Dutch he is fluent in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and German.

Catherine Campbell

Permanent Representation of Ireland to the European Union

- Transatlantic Relations Working Party Delegate
Permanent Representation of Ireland to the European Union (August 2019 to present)
- Head of Mission, Embassy of Ireland, Sierra Leone (July 2016 to July 2019)
- Deputy Chief of Protocol, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Headquarters, (August 2014 to July 2016)
- Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Ireland, Mexico (July 2010 to July 2014)
- Deputy Director Multilateral Unit, Development Cooperation Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (April 2007 to July 2010)
- Joined civil service in 2002 following some years in financial services (PwC and Bisys/Citibank) after graduation

Education

University College Dublin B.A. (International), History and Politics (1997)

Open University M.Sc., Global Development Management (2007)

Veikko Montonen

Permanent Representation of Estonia to the European Union

Veikko joined Estonia's Foreign Ministry as a diplomat in 2008 after having studied International Relations and East Asian political and economic relations in Tartu University in Estonia and Lund University in Sweden. In addition to working on EU Trade Policy and as the Desk Officer for Central European countries, Veikko has been posted to Estonian Embassy in Tokyo and Estonian Permanent Mission in Geneva. In Geneva Veikko followed the developments in World Trade Organization (WTO) and in U.N. specialized agencies on intellectual property (WIPO) and telecommunications (ITU). Veikko is currently working in Brussels at the Estonian Permanent Representation to the EU where his topic include coordinating Estonia's positions on EU Trade Policy and on Transatlantic Relations.

Cesare Morbelli

First Counsellor

Permanent Representation of Italy to the European Union

- After entering the Italian Foreign Service in 1999, he was first assigned to the North Africa desk, then to the Cabinet of the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs.
 - In 2001, he was appointed to the Cabinet of the Ministry for Italians abroad at the Prime Minister's Office.
 - From 2003 to 2007, he served at the Embassy of Italy in Buenos Aires as Trade Attaché'.
 - In 2007, he was appointed Consul of Italy in Paris.
 - In 2011, he returned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and headed until 2014 the Migratory Issues desk, dealing with the migratory flows to Italy after the "Arab Spring".
 - In August 2014, he was assigned to the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations in New York, with primary responsibility for Security Council reform, UN sanctions and political affairs.
 - Since October 2018, he has been working at the Permanent Representation of Italy to the European Union in Brussels as Trade Policy coordinator and delegate to the Council Working Party on transatlantic relations.
 - Born in Rome on 25 October 1973, Cesare Morbelli is married to Maria Saveria Veltri and has three children, Alice, Beatrice and Edoardo Maria.
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Antonio Millán

Permanent Representation of Spain to the European Union

- Legal clerk. Secretary General's office, Municipality of Madrid. December 1986 to September 1989
- Third Secretary. Spanish Foreign Service Academy. September 1989 to June 1990
- Second Secretary, North America and Asia Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Madrid. July 1990 to July 1993
- Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Spain to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. July 1993 to July 1995
- Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Spain to the United Arab Emirates. July 1995 to July 1998
- Counselor. Permanent Mission of Spain to the UN (New York). July 1998 to December 2000
- Executive Advisor, Secretariat of State for EU Affairs, MFA, Madrid. January 2001 to July 2004. Seconded to the Spanish Embassy in Washington DC, March-July 2002
- Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Spain to the State of Kuwait. July 2004 to July 2007
- Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Spain to the I.R. of Iran. July 2007 to July 2009
- Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Spain to the Kingdom of Thailand. July 2009 to July 2012
- Assn. Deputy Director for EU External Relations and Trade, Secretariat of State for EU Affairs, MFA, Madrid. August 2012 to July 2015
- External Relations Coordinator / Delegate to COTRA (Transatlantic) & COASI (Asia-Pacific) Working Groups, Permanent Representation of Spain to the EU, Brussels. Since August 2015

B.A. Law, Universidad Complutense, Madrid, 1984

Master in Corporate Law. Instituto de Empresa (IE) Business School, Madrid 1986

Executive MBA. IESE, Madrid 1990-1992