



Launch of the joint EC/OECD-INFE project to develop a financial competence framework in the EU

Speakers' biographies

Online conference
26 April 2021



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#FinComp



H.M. Queen Máxima of the Netherlands

United Nations Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development and Honorary Chair of the Dutch Money Wise Platform

Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands has served as the UN Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development (UNSGSA) since 2009.

As Special Advocate, she is a leading global voice on advancing universal access to and responsible usage of affordable, effective and safe financial services.

The UNSGSA raises awareness, serves as a convener, encourages leaders and supports actions to expand financial inclusion at a global and country level, all in close collaboration with partners from the public and private sector.

An important focus of her work is on enabling responsible technology for financial inclusion in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Since 2011, more than 1.2 billion people have gained access to financial services - and therefore have a better chance to transform their lives.

Queen Máxima is Honorary Patron of the G20's Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI) and a Global Agenda Trustee for the World Economic Forum's Global Challenge Initiative on the Future of the Global Financial System.

She is also the founder of the CEO Partnership for Economic Inclusion.

In the Netherlands, she is a member of the Dutch Committee for Entrepreneurship and Honorary Chair of the Dutch Money Wise Platform.

In all her roles, Her Majesty aims to unlock development opportunities and economic inclusion for all.



Mairead McGuinness

*European Commissioner for financial services,
financial stability and Capital Markets Union*

Mairead McGuinness is the European Commissioner for financial services, financial stability and Capital Markets Union.

The Commissioner's vision for the portfolio is focused on ensuring the financial sector's strength and stability, so that it can deliver for people, society and the environment.

Before joining the Commission in October 2020, Ms McGuinness was First Vice-President of the European Parliament from 2017. She served as an MEP from Ireland for 16 years, and was a Vice-President of the Parliament since 2014.

As Vice-President, she oversaw relations with national Parliaments, led the Parliament's dialogue with religious and philosophical organisations, and had responsibility for the Parliament's communication policy.

During her time in the Parliament, Ms McGuinness sat on a range of committees, covering agriculture, environment, public health, budgets, petitions and constitutional affairs.

Her legislative work included leading for the EPP Group on the European Climate Law, the revision of medical devices legislation, and CAP reform post-2013. As an Irish MEP representing the border region, she was outspoken on Brexit and the consequences for the EU and Ireland.

In 2006-2007, Ms McGuinness chaired the Parliament's investigation into the collapse of the Equitable Life assurance company which identified issues around weak financial regulation.

Prior to becoming an MEP, she was an award-winning journalist, broadcaster and commentator.



Masamichi Kono

*Deputy Secretary-General,
OECD*

Mr. Masamichi Kono was appointed Deputy Secretary-General in August 2017.

His portfolio includes the strategic direction of the OECD policy on Environment, Financial and Enterprise Affairs, Tax, Trade and Agriculture.

He oversaw the horizontal project on Sustainable Infrastructure Investment and currently oversees the horizontal project on Climate and Economic Resilience

He also represents the OECD at the Financial Stability Board.

Mr. Kono has had a long career in financial supervision and the regulation of financial services, in Japan and globally.

He was Vice Minister for International Affairs of the Japanese Financial Services Agency (JFSA) prior to his appointment at the OECD.

He served as Chairman of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) Technical Committee (April 2011-May 2012), and thereafter as Chairman of the IOSCO Board (until March 2013).

He was also the Co-chair of the Financial Stability Board Regional Consultative Group for Asia (July 2013-June 2015), and Chairman of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation Monitoring Board (February 2013-June 2016).

Previously, he was Secretary to the World Trade Organization's Trade in Financial Services Committee (1995-1999).



Marcel Haag

Director for horizontal policies, Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, European Commission

Marcel Haag is Director for horizontal policies at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union.

He has worked in different Commission services, including prior to his present assignment, as

a Director for policy coordination at the Secretariat-General of the Commission.

Mr. Haag is a lawyer and qualified as a judge in Germany.



Maria Demertzis

*Deputy Director,
Bruegel*

Maria Demertzis is Deputy Director at Bruegel.

She has previously worked at the European Commission and the research department of the Dutch Central Bank.

She has also held academic positions at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in the USA and the University of Strathclyde in the UK, from where she holds a PhD in economics.

She has published extensively in international academic journals and contributed regular policy inputs to both the European Commission's and the Dutch Central Bank's policy outlets.



Annamaria Lusardi

University Professor of Economics and Accountancy; Academic Director, Global Financial Literacy Excellence Center (GFLEC)

Annamaria Lusardi is University Professor of Economics and Accountancy at the George Washington University.

Moreover, she is the founder and academic director of the Global Financial Literacy Excellence Center (GFLEC).

Previously, she was the Joel Z. and Susan Hyatt Professor of Economics at Dartmouth College, where she taught for twenty years.

She has also taught at Princeton University, the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, and Columbia Business School.

From January to June 2008, she was a visiting scholar at Harvard Business School. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University.

In 2009, she served as a faculty advisor for the Office of Financial Education of the U.S. Treasury.

In August 2017, she was appointed Director of the Financial Education Committee in charge of designing the national strategy for financial literacy in Italy.

She has chaired the Research Committee of the OECD/International Network on Financial Education.

In 2019, she was included in the Forbes list of the 100 successful women in Italy.

She was recently listed in the Corriere della Sera “110 women of 2020.”



Wim Mijs

*Chief Executive Officer,
European Banking Federation*

Wim Mijs (1964) was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the European Banking Federation in 2014.

Between 2007 and 2014 Wim served as CEO of the Dutch banking association NVB.

During this tenure he transformed the NVB into a modern industry association, positioning it as the key representative of the banking sector in the wake of the financial crisis.

Wim studied law at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands, specialising in European and International law.

After his studies he worked at the International Court of Arbitration at the Peace Palace in The Hague.

In 1993 he joined ABN AMRO in Amsterdam before moving to Brussels to head up the bank's EU liaison office.

Wim moved back to The Hague in 2002 where he became the Head of Government Affairs for ABN AMRO.

Wim is a member of the Advisory Board of the BBVA Center for Financial Education and Capability, the Industry Chair of the European Parliamentary Financial Services Forum and member of the Advisory board of Leiden Law School.

Between 2011 and 2018, Wim held various institutional roles within the international and European financial/banking community: chairman of the International Banking Federation; chairman of the Executive Committee of the EBF; and chairman of the Board of Euribor, now known as the European Money Market Institute.



Olaf Simonse

*Head of the Money Wise Platform,
Dutch Ministry of Finance*

Olaf Simonse heads the Money Wise Platform from the Ministry of Finance and – in this role – is responsible for executing the National Strategy for Financial Education in the Netherlands, of which the third edition was launched in 2019.

The mission of the Money Wise Platform is to join forces in order to promote responsible financial behavior.

The platform initiated a range of projects to increase financial capability in the Netherlands, for example the National Money Week, the Pension3days, and – more recently – a platform that helps employers increase the financial health of their employees.

Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands is Honorary Chair of the platform.

Mr. Simonse is the Vice Chair of the OECD/INFE and he is associated with Leiden University for a PhD on financial scarcity.

Mr. Simonse regularly shares his expertise in the area of financial education as a speaker on national and international conferences.



Susana Solís Pérez


*Member of
the European Parliament*

Susana Solís is an Industrial Engineer from the University of Oviedo, Machine Engineer from the Fachhochschule of Osnabrück (Germany), holds an MBA and a Master's Degree in Marketing Management from IE (Madrid).

She also holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration and Leadership from IESE (Madrid).

With over 17 years of professional experience in several multinationals, she started her political career in May 2015, when she was elected as Deputy in the Parliament of Madrid.

Since May 2019, she is MEP in the European Parliament in the Renew Europe group and a member of the ITRE, ENVI, REGI and FEMM Committees and the Special Committee for Artificial Intelligence and Digital Agenda (AIDA).



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