



European
Commission



CAPITAL MARKETS UNION

***Investing for a stronger, prosperous
and sustainable European Union***

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Speakers' biographies

#CMU

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Nadia Calviño

*Vice President and Minister for Economy and Digitalization,
Spain*

Nadia Calviño is currently First Vice-president of Spain and Minister for Economy and Digitalization. She has recently been appointed Chair of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) of the International Monetary Fund with a two year mandate.

She holds a degree in Economics (1991) from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain) and a degree in Law (2001) from the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED). She is also a career civil servant, member of the specialized public corps of the Spanish Administration of “State Economists and Trade Experts” (Técnicos Comerciales y Economistas del Estado).

She has been a member of the Spanish Government since June 2018, first as Minister for Economy and Business (2018–2020), and then as Third Vice-President (Jan 2020 – March 2021), Second VicePresident (March 2021 – July 2021) and First Vice-President and Minister for Economy and Digitalization since July 2021. On December 23rd 2021, she was also appointed Chair of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) of the International Monetary Fund, with a two year mandate compatible with her position in the Spanish Government.

Before her return to Spain, she worked for 12 years in the European Commission, where she held top senior management positions as Deputy Director General for Competition for Mergers and Antitrust (Sep 2006 – Oct 2010), Deputy Director General for Financial Services (Nov 2010 – April 2014) and Director General in charge of the Budget (May 2014 – June 2018).

Before joining the European Commission in September 2006, she pursued her career as a civil servant in Spain within the Ministry for Economy in the areas of foreign trade, macroeconomic analysis and forecasting, economic policy and competition. Senior roles included Deputy Director General for Legal Affairs, Deputy Director General for Mergers and Director General for Competition. Minister Calviño lectured at the Faculty of Economics at the Universidad Complutense of Madrid.

She has published a large number of articles and, amongst other honors and titles, has been awarded the “Women and Technology Award” (2021), “Master of Digital” Award (2021), “Fernández Latorre” Journalism Prize (2020), 2012 “Women’s Leadership” Award; and the 2007 Public Sector “Under 40 Lawyer of the Year” by the Iberian Lawyer magazine.



Valdis Dombrovskis

*Executive Vice President for An economy that Works for People,
European Commission*

Valdis Dombrovskis is Executive Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for an Economy that Works for People, also in charge of Trade (since October 2020). Before this, he was Vice-President responsible for the euro, social dialogue, financial services and the Capital Markets Union.

In Latvia, he was his country's longest-serving head of government with three terms as prime minister. He served as Finance Minister, was a Member of the Latvian Parliament and elected twice to the European Parliament.

In his pre-political life, he worked as chief economist at the Bank of Latvia and before that, as a research assistant at Mainz University, at the Institute of Solid-State Physics in Latvia and the University of Maryland.

Valdis Dombrovskis was born on 5 August 1971 in Riga, and holds degrees in both physics and economics.



Paolo Gentiloni

*European Commissioner
for Economy*

Paolo Gentiloni is the European Commissioner for Economy since December 2019.

He served as Prime Minister of Italy (2016-2018), Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (2014-2016), Member of the Italian Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs (2013-2014) and Minister of Communications (2006-2008).

He was Spokesperson for the Margherita Party (2002-2007), Chairman of the Broadcasting Services Watchdog Committee (2005-2006), Spokesperson for the Mayor of Rome and Commissioner in the City of Rome (1993-2000). Previously he worked as a professional journalist.

Born in 1954, Gentiloni graduated in Political Sciences from La Sapienza, Rome.

His last book is “La sfida impopulista” (the (Un)populist challenge)



Mairead McGuinness

*Commissioner for Financial Stability, Financial Services
and the 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 Member of the European Parliament (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.



John Berrigan

Director-General, DG for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG FISMA), European Commission

John Berrigan is the Director General in DG FISMA (Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union) of the European Commission.

DG FISMA is responsible for EU-level policy making and legislative initiatives with respect to the financial sector, including Banking Union, Capital Markets Union, sustainable finance, digital finance, anti-money laundering and sanctions.

In this context, John represents the European Commission on the Economic and Financial Committee and the Financial Services Committee, which report to EU Finance Ministers.

He also represents the Commission on the Financial Stability Board, which reports to G20 Finance Ministers.

He attends the European Systemic Risk Board and is a permanent observer on the Single Resolution Board.

John has been a Commission official since the mid-1980s and has spent most of that time working on financial sector issues - first in DG ECFIN and now in DG FISMA.

In the mid-1990s, he worked for several years with the International Monetary Fund.

John has a Masters' degree in economics from University College Dublin.



Marcel Haag

Director Horizontal Policies, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG FISMA), European Commission

Marcel Haag studied law at the universities of Freiburg, Bonn, Strasbourg and at the EUI in Florence and qualified as a judge in Düsseldorf.

After a short stint in business, he joined the European Commission and worked in different Commission services.

Until the summer of 2020 Mr Haag served as a Director for policy coordination in the Secretariat-General of the Commission. He is currently Director for Horizontal policies at the Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union.

SESSION 1:

CMU in a global context - how does the rest of the world see the CMU project?



William Wright

*Managing director,
New Financial*

William Wright is the founder and managing director of New Financial, a think tank that makes the case for bigger and better capital markets in Europe.

He was one of the co-founders of Financial News in March 1996 and was Editor of the publication between 2004 and 2011 and worked closely on its acquisition by the Wall Street Journal in 2007.

He studied at Oxford and London universities and at INSEAD. Born in the UK, he has also lived and worked in France, Germany, and Hungary.



Ashley Ian Alder

*CEO, Securities and Futures Commission,
International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)*

Ashley is the Chief Executive Officer of the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) of Hong Kong. He was first appointed in October 2011. In May 2016, Ashley was elected as Chair of the Board of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), and was re-elected for a further two-year term in June 2020.

Ashley was previously Chair of the IOSCO Asia-Pacific Regional Committee and Vice Chair of the IOSCO Board. Ashley has represented IOSCO as a member of the Financial Stability Board Steering Committee and Plenary since his election as IOSCO Board Chair.

Ashley started his career as a lawyer in London in 1984. He moved to Hong Kong in 1989 with the international law firm Herbert Smith, practicing corporate and business law. He was Executive Director of Corporate Finance at the SFC from 2001 to 2004, before returning to Herbert Smith, where he became head of the firm's Asia Region.



Daniela Peterhoff

*President Nasdaq Clearing & Head European Markets Strategy,
Nasdaq, Inc.*

Daniela Peterhoff serves as Senior Vice President, President of Clearing and Head of European Markets Strategy at Nasdaq. She is responsible for running the operations of Nasdaq Clearing, future proofing the business and liaising with customers, regulators and other key stakeholders. This includes all aspects of the business covering Products & Services, Technology, Operations and Risk. Daniela also leads strategic planning and M&A activities for our European Market Services business.

Before joining Nasdaq, Daniela worked for close to twenty years in the market infrastructure industry, first in Trading and Clearing Market Development at Eurex and then as a Senior Partner at Oliver Wyman. During her time at Oliver Wyman, Daniela was instrumental in building and leading the Global Market Infrastructure business, the European Corporate & Institutional Banking

practice, the Northern European market as well as European strategy development. Her work spanned Strategy, Risk & Regulatory, Operations, Technology and M&A work for banks, the buy-side, PE firms and market infrastructure providers.

Daniela earned an MBA and a PhD in Business Administration from European Business School near Frankfurt.



Carmine Di Noia

*Director, Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs,
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*

Carmine Di Noia was appointed Director of the OECD's Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs in February 2022, where he leads the OECD's standard setting and policy work on corporate governance, anti-corruption, responsible business conduct, competition, financial education and consumer protection, capital and financial markets, investment, pensions, insurance, public debt management, and blockchain.

He brings over 30 years of experience in the area of Financial Markets and Enterprise Affairs. Prior to his appointment, Dr Di Noia was Commissioner for the Italian Securities and Exchange Commission (CONSOB) and Deputy Director General at ASSONIME (the Association of Italian Corporations).

An Italian national, he holds a Doctorate Degree in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania and a Doctorate Degree in Economic Theory and Institutions from the Università di Roma Tor Vergata. He is also a full Professor of Financial Markets and Banking, at the Business School of Luiss University, in Rome.



Fabio M. Natalucci

*Deputy Director, Monetary and Capital Markets Department,
International Monetary Fund (IMF)*

Fabio M. Natalucci is a Deputy Director of the Monetary and Capital Markets Department with responsibility for the IMF's global financial markets monitoring and systemic risk assessment functions.

He is responsible for the Global Financial Stability Report that gives the IMF's assessment of global financial stability risks.

Prior to joining the IMF, Fabio was a Senior Associate Director in the Division of Monetary Affairs at the Federal Reserve Board, where he conducted research and current analysis on the relationship between monetary policy, financial regulatory policy, and financial stability.

Between October 2016 and June 2017, Mr. Natalucci was Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Financial Stability and Regulation at the U.S. Department of Treasury.

His responsibilities included leading U.S. engagement on financial regulatory cooperation in the G-20, representing the U.S. Treasury at the Financial Stability Board, coordinating between domestic and international post-crisis regulatory reforms, and monitoring developments and vulnerabilities in global financial markets.

Fabio holds a PhD in Economics from New York University.



Neil Rimer

*General Partner & Co-founder of
Index Ventures*

Neil is a founding partner of Index Ventures, a leading global venture capital firm and the first to bring Silicon Valley-style investing to Europe.

Over the past 25 years, Index has raised \$12 billion to support visionary entrepreneurs all around the world.

Neil has played a key personal role in nurturing the tech ecosystem in Europe and beyond, and is passionate about mentoring and partnering with founders who possess a strong sense of purpose.

He led the firm's investment in Supercell, which was last valued at more than \$10 billion, and Roblox, which recently went public on the NYSE at a \$41 billion valuation.

Born in Montreal, Neil studied at Stanford and earned his MBA from Harvard Business School. He spent four years with Montgomery Securities in San Francisco, and joined Index Securities in 1990 - the predecessor of Index Ventures.

Neil also serves on the board of Human Rights Watch.

SESSION 2:

Making capital markets more accessible to citizens - how to facilitate retail investment in the EU?



Sam Fleming

*Brussels Bureau Chief,
Financial Times*

Sam Fleming is Brussels Bureau Chief at the Financial Times. He has held the post since August 2019, after moving from Washington DC where he was US Economics Editor for the FT for nearly five years, covering the Federal Reserve System, US Treasury, and US economic policy.

He previously worked as the newspaper's Financial Policy Correspondent in London, covering financial regulation for the FT, where he started in October 2013.

Mr. Fleming worked as Economics Editor for The Times of London from 2010 and 2013.

Between 2006 and 2010 he was Associate City Editor and Economics Correspondent for the Daily Mail newspaper, also in London.

He started his work in journalism at Bloomberg in 2001, where he covered industry, the stock market and latterly economics until 2005.

Between 1997 and 2000 Mr. Fleming worked at Slaughter and May, a London-based corporate law firm, qualifying as a solicitor in mergers and acquisitions in 1999.

He studied law at the College of Law, London, from 1994 to 1996. His university degree was at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1994.

He was born in London in 1973.



Anne Pointet

*Deputy Chief Executive Officer,
BNP Paribas Wealth Management*

Anne Pointet began her career working for French Ministry of Defense as Head of the international legal affairs office, and then for the French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry as Financial Advisor for Middle East region, posted in the UAE.

In 2007 she joined BNP Paribas to be in charge of Middle East Steering and then of the French Overseas territories network. Since 2012, she hold different positions within the French Retail Banking division including Head of a Retail Banking

network of agencies in Paris, Head of a Corporate Banking Center and finally Regional Head in the South of France.

As of May 1st 2020 Anne becomes Deputy CEO of BNP Paribas Wealth Management.

Anne graduated in Economics and Political Sciences. She is a National School Administration (“ENA”) alumni.



Frank Niehage

*Chief Executive Officer,
flatexDEGIRO AG*

Frank Niehage is the Chief Executive Officer of flatexDEGIRO, a leading European online broker based in Germany.

Frank has vast experience across all segments of retail and commercial banking, working as Managing Director at Goldman Sachs until August 2014 when he joined flatexDEGIRO.

In his previous positions, he was instrumental in the growth of Bank Sarasin AG as CEO in Germany.

Prior to this he had served in various senior positions at Commerzbank, Credit Suisse, UBS and international law firm Beiten Burkhardt, both in Germany and internationally, especially in Asia.

Frank is an attorney at law in Germany and has received his Master of Laws majoring in international economics from the University of Houston Law Center.



Robyn Laidlaw

*Head of Distribution,
Vanguard Asset Management Ltd.*

Robyn Laidlaw is a Vanguard Principal and Head of Distribution. Robyn is responsible for business development and client management across European intermediary channels, as well as for the delivery of European Client Services.

Robyn joined Vanguard in April 2006 and prior to joining the European business was Head of Product and Marketing for Vanguard Australia, where she was primarily responsible for the development and management of Vanguard's range of managed and exchange traded funds and for marketing.

Robyn has experience in the funds management industry in the UK, New Zealand and Australia. She received a Master of Applied Finance from Macquarie University.



Guillaume Prache

*Managing Director,
Better Finance*

Guillaume Prache is the Managing Director of BETTER FINANCE, the European Federation of Investors and Financial Services Users.

He is also one of the experts representing financial services users at the European Commission (lately as member of the High Level Forum on the CMU), at ESMA (Securities & Markets Stakeholder Group), at EIOPA (Insurance and Reinsurance Stakeholder Group), and at the French financial regulator AMF.

He has been the first chair of the ESMA Stakeholder Group, and former vice chair of the European Commission's FSUG (Financial Services User Group) and member of the EIOPA Pensions and EBA Banking Stakeholder Groups.

He started as a magistrate at the French Court of Auditors, and has an extended and international experience in financial matters, most recently as Chief Financial Officer of Rhône-Poulenc Rorer, Inc., a "Fortune 500" publicly-listed pharmaceutical company (today Sanofi) from 1997 to 2000, and then as Managing Director of the European affiliate of the Vanguard Group, Inc., a global leader in asset management, from 2000 to 2006.

He has taught asset management for the CIWM (Certified International Wealth Manager) program and wrote two books (Politique économique contemporaine in 1989, Les Scandales de l'épargne retraite in 2008) and various articles on economics and finance.



Isabel Benjumea

*Member of
the European Parliament*

Ms Benjumea was born on September 5, 1982 in Madrid and she graduated in Law and International Relations at Universidad Comillas (ICADE).

She spent her first year of professional career in Washington DC, where she worked at the World Bank implementing transparency and accountability programs for local governments in Latin America. After, she worked in the international relations department of the FAES Foundation.

It was in 2011 when she decided to undertake his first business project in the tourism sector, Greatness, which she directed until 2017.

In 2018 she joined as a partner of the strategic consulting firm IANUS Group. Currently, she teaches in the Entrepreneurship degree at Francisco Marroquín University in Madrid.

Benjumea is a member of the Popular Party (PP) in Spain. Since July 2019, she has been Member of the European Parliament (MEP) after having been included as a candidate in number 10 of the PP list for the elections in the European Parliament of May 2019 in Spain.

Currently she is Vice President in the Committee on Regional Development, Member of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.

Isabel Benjumea is co-founder of the Red Floridablanca, a liberal-conservative think-tank from which she published numerous articles in the Spanish press.

SESSION 3:

Access to finance - how to make financing available to companies of all sizes at all stages of their development and covering all their needs?



Thomas Wieser

Ex-President of the Economic and Financial Committee and of the Eurogroup Working Group, Council of the European Union, Non-resident fellow at Bruegel

Thomas Wieser was the Brussels-based president of the Euro Working Group and chairman of the EU's Economic and Financial Committee from 2012 to 2018.

In this function, he was responsible for the preparation of the negotiations and decisions of EU finance ministers.

He was the G7 deputy for the Eurogroup and represented the Euro Working Group in a number of other international fora.

At present he is non-resident fellow at Bruegel, the Brussels Think Tank.

He recently chaired the European Commission's "High Level Forum on Capital Market Union", and the European Council's "High-Level Group of Wise Persons on the European financial architecture for Development" and recently was a member of the French Government's Commission on the future of Public Finances.



Danuta Hübner

*Member of
the European Parliament*

Danuta Hübner was the first Polish EU Commissioner, first for Trade and subsequently for Regional Policy.

She is a Professor of Economics, and has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2009.

Currently, she works in the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs - for which she was recently appointed as the Rapporteur on the review of the regulatory framework for investment firms and market operators (MiFID II and MiFIR) - as well as in the Committee for International Trade and in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs.

She also participates in a number of Delegations, namely: the Delegation to the EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Delegation for Relations with the US, the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary

Assembly and the Delegation to the EU-UK Parliamentary Partnership Assembly.

Before joining the European Parliament, she was the chief negotiator for Poland for its accession to the OECD, and she was the Executive Secretary of the European Economic Commission with the rank of Deputy Secretary General at the United Nations.

In Poland she led the Office of the Committee for European Integration and held the role of Minister of European Affairs, overseeing the process of Poland's accession to the European Union.



Verena Ross

*Chair,
European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)*

Verena Ross is the Chair of the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA). She took up the role on 1 November 2021 and is responsible for representing the Authority as well as preparing the work of ESMA's Board of Supervisors (BOS) and chairing the BOS and the Management Board.

Between 2011 and 2021 Verena Ross served as ESMA's first Executive Director where she was in charge of the day to day running of the organisation. Prior to this, Verena held a number of senior posts in the UK's Financial Services Authority (FSA), with her final position being Director of the International Division from October 2009 to May 2011.

She was also a member of the FSA's Executive Committee and the Policy and Risk Committees.

Verena joined the FSA in 1998 to run the Executive Chairman's office during the regulator's start-up phase, and was briefly a seconded advisor to the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission in 2000.

She subsequently held various positions in the Markets Division and was Director of Strategy & Risk Division before becoming Director of the International Division.

Verena is a German national. Following studies in Hamburg, Taipei and London (SOAS) she began her career at the Bank of England in 1994, where she worked as an economist and then banking supervisor.



Alexander Hartman

*Chief Financial Officer,
Northvolt*

Alexander Hartman has been at Northvolt since 2016, during which time he has built up the CFO team from the ground up to secure some \$6 billion in financing.

Northvolt is a Swedish battery developer and manufacturer, specializing in lithium-ion technology for electric vehicles.

The team, which he leads today, has also been key in the development and signing of contracts and strategic partnerships valued in excess of \$50 billion with key customers and partners, including BMW, Fluence, Scania, Volkswagen, Volvo Cars.

Alexander has a background at Goldman Sachs, Altor Equity Partners and outdoor brand Helly Hansen. He holds an MSc in Corporate finance from Stockholm School of Economics and a BBA in corporate finance from University of Mississippi.

Outside of the office, Alexander is a former world-ranked tennis player.



Kaidi Ruusalepp

*Chief Executive Officer,
Funderbeam*

Kaidi Ruusalepp is the founder and CEO of Funderbeam. Funderbeam runs secondary market for global private companies and was awarded as the Best European Fintech startup in 2017.

As of January 2022 Kaidi also serves as the President of Estonian Founders Society.

Kaidi is a Member of the Council of Arvo Pärt Foundation. Kaidi is also the former CEO of Nasdaq Tallinn Stock Exchange and of the Central Securities Depository, co-Founder of Estonian Service Industry Association.

She was also a Member of the Startup Europe Advisory Board at European Commission.

The first IT lawyer in Estonia, Kaidi co-authored the Estonian Digital Signatures Act of 2000 - landmark legislation that enables secure digital identities and, in turn, the country's booming electronic economy.

Kaidi has been listed among TOP 50 Europe's most influential women in the startup and venture capital space for 6 years.

She was the entrepreneur of the Year in 2018 and received the Technology Playmaker Awards (booking.com global award for women in tech).

She was nominated as the Person of a Year in 2016 by the Estonian ICT Association.



Roger Havenith

*Deputy Chief Executive,
European Investment Fund (EIF)*

Roger Havenith is Deputy Chief Executive of the EIF since 1 January 2016.

In his role, Roger is part of the Fund's governance providing leadership and direction to the institution. He deputises for the Chief Executive in the day-to-day management of the Fund, has specific responsibilities for supervising the risk management, compliance, financial control and middle/back-office services and acts as main senior counterpart for the EU institutions.


Previously, he had several key roles at the European Commission: among others, he was a Commission negotiator in charge of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) SME Window, as part of the Investment Plan for Europe.

He also led the European Commission's Designated Service

responsible for the negotiation, implementation and oversight of financial instruments under Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), European Progress Microfinance Facility (EPMF), Multiannual Programme for SMEs (MAP) and other initiatives.

He has a B.A. in Business Administration from HEC St. Louis in Brussels (Belgium) and LL.M. in International and Comparative Law from Vrije Universiteit Brussel.

He also earned a postgraduate degree in European Studies from Institut d'Etudes européennes de l'Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) and M.A. as conference interpreter from Institut supérieur de Traducteurs et Interprètes/ULB.



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