

Who's Who?



HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON POLICIES FOR EQUAL AGEING: A LIFE-COURSE APPROACH

Brdo Congress Centre (Predoslje 39, 4000 Kranj)
25 and 26 January 2018



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
GOVERNMENT OF THE
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This document is also available online at
www.oecd.org/social/equal-ageing-2018.htm

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Speaker Profiles

In alphabetical order



RAMSEY ALWIN

Director Financial Resilience on the Global Thought Leadership team, American Association of Retired Persons, United States

Ramsey Alwin works to position AARP as the global leader in challenging outdated beliefs and sparking new solutions related to financial resilience and longevity so people can choose how they age. Alwin engages with provocative thinkers to bring the best ideas from a wide range of perspectives to bear on AARP's programs, policy work, and products. Prior to arriving at AARP, Alwin served as Vice President of Economic Security at the National Council on Aging, Director of National Economic Security Programs at Wider Opportunities for Women, and spent six years in the research, training, and advocacy division of the National Association of State and Community Service Programs representing the governors' interests on the Community Services Block Grant, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and Weatherization. Alwin has been featured in major media outlets including The Wall Street Journal and New York Times and has testified before Congress.



ELVIRE ARONICA

Deputy Delegate, European and International Affairs, Ministry of Health, France

Dr Aronica is a psychiatrist who specialized in Public Health at Berkeley University and served in various positions in France and abroad. Hospital manager, head officer at the French ministry of Health, she then became advisor on public health for the Minister in charge of health and social issues. She was appointed as counsellor for social affairs at the French embassy in China and is now deputy director of the French delegation for European and international affairs within the ministries in charge of health, social affairs, employment and labour.



EVELYN ASTOR

Economic and Social Policy Officer at the International Trade Union Confederation

Evelyn Astor is a specialist in employment and social policy, working at the International Trade Union Confederation, a global organization representing over 330 trade unions from 163 countries. In this post, she has supported trade unions advocate for fair wages, safe and secure working conditions, and access to social protection. She has also examined how new forms of work are impacting on job quality. Prior to joining the ITUC in 2017, she worked for several years at the European Commission, where she was responsible for developing several EU initiatives in the areas of social protection and gender equality in the labour market – including the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Commission proposal for a Work Life Balance Package.



BENEDA ATTILA

Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Human Capacities, Hungary

Mr Attila Beneda has been serving as the Deputy State Secretary for Family Affairs and Demographic Policy at the Ministry of Human Capacities of Hungary since 2016. Mr Beneda was born in Budapest in 1967, he holds a Master's degree in Medicine. His career in public administration began as Head of Cabinet at the State Secretariat for Health Care in 2010. Before his current position he was the Deputy State Secretary for Health Policy between 2014-2016. He works to ensure special emphasis on strengthening families and developing a family-friendly political approach and thinking. He is married and the father of four children.



TOMAŽ BOH

State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenia

Dr Tomaž Boh is currently State Secretary at the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia. He has been at the ministry since 2009, firstly as Head of Unit of the Science Division at the Science Directorate.

Before his employment at the Ministry, he was working at the Slovenian Research Agency, being responsible for preparing analyses in the area of scientific and research policy. In so doing, he monitored indicators of research and development policy and carried out a number of other important tasks. In 2006 and 2007, he was advisor to the director at the Information Sciences Institute in Maribor, Slovenia.

Mr Tomaž Boh has devoted his life to science and research policy as he enrolled as a young researcher at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, where he also conducted an assistant role in several study programs.



AXEL BÖRSCH-SUPAN

Director Munich Center for the Economics of Ageing, Max-Planck-Institute for Social Law and Social Policy, Germany

Börsch-Supan holds a Ph.D. in economics from M.I.T. and was Assistant Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University. Since 2011, he leads the Munich Center for the Economic of Aging (MEA) at the Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy in Munich and the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE). He is member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the Berlin-Brandenburg, the Austrian Academy of Sciences, and Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Cambridge, Mass. His policy consulting includes: Council of Advisors to the German Economics Ministry, German Pension Reform Commission, EU Commission, OECD, World Bank, and others.



MARCELO CAETANO

State Secretary for Social Security, Ministry of Finance, Brazil

Staff economist of the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA) since 1997, Marcelo Abi-Ramia Caetano is Secretary of Social Security of the Ministry of Finance, responsible for developing the pension reform proposal, currently in discussion in the Brazilian Parliament.

PhD in Economics, he has published several studies on social security. Since then he has been frequently interviewed by mainstream Brazilian media. He has worked for Social Security projections for Ecuador, Cape Verde and Brazil.

Mr. Caetano is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Social Policy, and he was visiting researcher at the LSE (in the UK).

He was General Coordinator of Actuarial, Accounting and Technical Studies of the Ministry of Social Security of Brazil (from 1998 to 2005). He was IPEA Pension Coordinator, when he took on the position of Brazilian Secretary of Social Security.



AGNIESZKA CHŁON-DOMINCZAK

Polish Pension Group, Warsaw School of Economics

Ms Chłoń-Domińczak is an Assistant Professor at Warsaw School of Economics in the Institute of Statistics and Demography. Previously she was a Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Policy and the Head of Department of Economic Analyses and Forecasting in the same Ministry. Her responsibilities included, among others, the oversight of the social insurance system. She was the member of the Bureau of the Social Protection Committee of the European Council and Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee of the OECD. She was a member of the 1999 pension reform team in Poland. She consulted on pension issues in the region of Central and Eastern Europe, cooperating with the World Bank, ILO and the OECD. She is an author and co-author of many publications in the field of pensions and labour markets. Her research interest includes: demography, pension systems, labour markets, social policy, health and education. She likes roller-blading and reading fantasy books.



TAEICK CHO

Director General, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Korea

Director-General for International Cooperation at the Ministry of Health and Welfare of the Republic of Korea. He previously worked as Korean Diplomat assigned to Iran, The United Arab Emirates, Austria, Norway and Russia. He graduated from Michigan state university with a Master's degree in public administration.



KARL ERJAVEC

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

After starting his career in the private sector and being later elected as member of the Kranj City Council, Mr Erjavec first served as Director of the Specialist Service and then as Head of Cabinet in the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office. His previous positions include State Secretary at the Ministry of Justice, Minister of Defence and Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning.



HANS-HORST KONKOLEWSKY

Secretary General of the International Social Security Association

Mr Hans-Horst Konkolewsky was elected Secretary General of the International Social Security Association (ISSA) in 2005 and heads an extensive programme of activities focused on strengthening the governance, performance and service quality of social security administrations. Prior to his election Mr Konkolewsky, who is a Danish national, was the Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work. He also held several senior positions in the Danish Ministry of Employment and served as Deputy Director General of the Danish Working Environment Authority.



ANJA KOPAČ MRAK

Minister of Labour, Slovenia

Dr. Anja Kopač Mrak received her PhD at Faculty of Social Science in Ljubljana, Slovenia in the field of social policy in 2004, after finishing studies at post-graduate level at the University of Bath, England, on 'Analysis of European Social Policy'.

She is an assistant professor of sociology and a lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, where she teaches Sociology of Social Policy, European Social Policy, Labour and Social Law. She is the author of several scientific works in the field of social and employment policy, including a book entitled "Activation – turn in social policy".

Between 2008 and 2012, she served as State Secretary and from 2013 on as Minister of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of Republic of Slovenia. In this period she successfully managed numerous reforms in the field of the legal security of workers, social security and pension reform, employment and equal opportunities.



LINAS KUKURAITIS

Minister of Social Security and Labour, Lithuania

Former Director of Caritas under Archdiocese of Vilnius, lecturer of social work at Vilnius University, and establisher of public entity the Blessed J. Matulaitis Social Center.

Linas Kukuraitis was actively engaged in the establishment of Lithuanian youth teaching methodologies and programmes, lead trainings in the field of youth social pedagogical activity, such as social work with young people, promotion of voluntary work. Also, he was leader of projects of fight against poverty, promotion of social innovations, and integration of people after detention.



HIDEKI MAKIHARA

State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan

Hideki Makihara is a member of the House of Representatives, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and in August 2017 was appointed as State Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare. A 1995 graduate of the University of Tokyo, he first joined the Asahi Law Offices and completed his LL.M. at Georgetown University Law Center (2001). First elected to the House of Representatives in 2005, he is now in his fourth term. Previously he served as Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Environment.



MAJA MAKOVEC BRENČIČ

Minister of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenia

Minister of Education, Science and Sport of Slovenia. Dr. Maja Makovec Brenčič was full professor of international business and Vice-Rector for the area of knowledge transfer at the University of Ljubljana (UL). From 2009 to 2013, she was Vice-Dean for Development at the Faculty of Economics UL and was responsible for strategy development, internationalisation and quality (accreditations). From 2010 to 2013, she was President of the Council of the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. Her bibliography comprises over 400 scientific and professional titles. In 2013, she was appointed President of the European Marketing Academy, she was also Vice-President of the Marketing Council of the Slovenian Olympic Committee.



MIKE MANSFIELD

Program Director for the Aegon Center for Longevity and Retirement, The Netherlands

Since 2015, Mike has been responsible for delivering and further developing Aegon's annual Retirement Readiness Survey and other publications. Mike has also been responsible for the establishment of the Aegon Center for Longevity and Retirement, a collaboration of experts assembled by Aegon with representation from Europe, the Americas, and Asia. The mission of the Center is to conduct research, educate the public and inform a global dialogue on trends, issues and opportunities surrounding longevity, population aging, and retirement security.

Mike has been with Aegon for 15 years where he has previously worked as Sustainability Officer and Group Internal Auditor. Prior to working for Aegon, Mike worked for PwC and Wells Fargo Bank.



JOŽICA MAUČEC ZAKOTNIK

State Secretary, Ministry of Health, Slovenia

Ms Jožica Maučec Zakotnik has been State Secretary at the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Slovenia since 8 May 2017. She already served as State Secretary at the same Ministry once before from 2000 – 2005. During that time the Ministry of Health promoted and facilitated the launching of the National Programme of Primary Prevention of Coronary Heart Diseases, designed and adopted two key public health policies regarding nutrition and promotion of physical activity for health, developed legislation for tobacco control and harmful use of alcohol, and carried out the "health impact assessment of food and agricultural policies on the health of the people of Slovenia after the accession to the EU". The results of this assessment served as the basis for the development of food policy in Slovenia, as well as for the development guidelines of the MURA Programme, launched at the initiative of the Ministry of Health and with the support of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in Pomurje, with the aim of reducing health inequities.

Ms Jožica Maučec Zakotnik graduated from the Medical Faculty of the University of Ljubljana. Her specialisation is in general/family medicine, including a postgraduate degree in a two-semester study of public health/social medicine. For more than two decades she worked as family physician, and then turned her attention to prevention, health promotion and healthy lifestyle programmes. From 1991 – 1998 she participated in the World Health Organisation's Countrywide Integrated Noncommunicable Disease Intervention Programme (CINDI), and after 1998 performed the function of the CINDI Slovenia programme director, as the Minister of Health at that time appointed her the national coordinator of integrated prevention of chronic non-communicable diseases. She continued to perform this function at the Health Centre Ljubljana after the expiry of her State Secretary' term of office, i.e. from 2005 – 2009. After 1 July 2009 she was the Head of the Centre for the Management of Prevention and Health Promotion Programmes at the National Institute of Public Health. She headed the development and implementation of national programmes for health promotion and the prevention of chronic diseases, and the development, establishment, implementation and management of the National screening and early detection of precancerous changes and colorectal cancer programme – the Svit Programme. From 2010 to May 2017 she was employed with the National Institute of Public Health as Head of the Centre for the Management of Prevention and Health Promotion Programmes. During her current term of office as State Secretary at the Ministry of Health Ms Jožica Maučec Zakotnik is also aiming to increase the impact of the public health as an important element of the healthcare system. She believes that health is of crucial importance for other development policies as well, wherefore she also seeks to strengthen inter-ministerial cooperation.



DOUG MURPHY

Special Advisor on Social Policy, Ministry for Employment and Social Development, Canada

Mr Murphy is Special Advisor, Social Policy, Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). He is the former Director General of the Social Policy Directorate within ESDC, where he led the Department's work on the development of a Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework with provinces and territories, the implementation of the Canada Child Benefit and the development of a Canadian Poverty Reduction Strategy.

Before joining ESDC, Mr Murphy worked at the Government of Canada's Treasury Board Secretariat and Department of Finance. He was educated at the University of British Columbia, the University of Victoria and the London School of Economics.



PHIL O'REILLY

Chair, Business at OECD (OECD Business and Industry Advisory Committee)

Phil O'Reilly ONZM is Managing Director of Iron Duke Partners, a Wellington based Public Policy Advisory Firm. He is a global business leader and advocate.

He is Chair of the Board of Business at OECD, based in Paris, which is the representative of businesses in OECD member states. Until recently he was a member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation based in Geneva. He is involved in the work of the B20 - advising G20 leaders. He is also a member of the APEC Business Advisory Council.

He has acted in a governance or advisory capacity to a number of New Zealand and overseas organisations in areas as diverse as trade, sustainability, diversity, pay equity, manufacturing, tertiary education, child poverty and the future of work.

He was previously Chief Executive of BusinessNZ, New Zealand's leading business advocacy group, representing thousands of businesses of all sizes.



PETER POGAČAR

State Secretary of Labour, Family, Social affairs and Equal opportunities, Slovenia

Mr. Peter Pogačar holds a university degree in law. He began his professional career at the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs and continued it at the Ljubljana Higher Court. From 2001 to 2004, he worked as an adviser to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, where his responsibilities included the development of supplementary pension insurance. In 2004, he took up the job of advisor to the management of Pension and Disability Fund Management, and later became the manager of the Pension Insurance Department. His responsibilities were focused on the field of pension funds managed by Pension and Disability Fund.

From 2009 to 2015, Mr. Pogačar was Director-General of the Directorate for Employment Relationships and Rights. During this period, he was an expert coordinator for the drafting of the pension and labour market reforms that were implemented in 2013. In the international field, he was a key partner of the OECD and the European Commission in the dialogue concerning the proposed orientations and the monitoring of adopted measures in view of the recommendations from the Ministry.

On 20 February 2015, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia appointed Peter Pogačar a state secretary at the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.

He regularly lectures and participates in round tables at numerous international and national conferences focusing on the pension system and labour market, and has co-authored several books and articles about pension and labour market legislation.



MONIKA QUEISSER

Senior Counsellor, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD

Monika Queisser is Senior Counsellor and Head of Social Policy Division at the OECD, where she supervises and coordinates the work on social protection spending, social indicators, pensions, family policies, tax-benefit systems and income inequality and poverty. She also leads the OECD-wide gender initiative which examines gender inequalities in education, employment and entrepreneurship. Her background is in pension system analysis and pension reform. She has been working at the OECD since 1997. In 2007-2008, she worked as an adviser to the OECD Secretary-General.

Prior to joining the OECD, Ms. Queisser worked at the World Bank in Washington, D.C. She was a member of the pensions and insurance group in the Financial Sector Development Department. Her first employment was with the German Ifo Institute for economic research in Munich. Her professional experience also includes employment as a journalist at daily newspapers and broadcasting in Germany.



GABRIELA RAMOS

OECD Chief of Staff, Special Counsellor and Sherpa to the G20

Gabriela Ramos is Chief of Staff and OECD Sherpa to the G7 and G20. Besides supporting the Strategic Agenda of the Secretary General, she is responsible for the contributions of the Organisation to the global agenda, including the G20 and the G7.

Ms Ramos also leads, and sets strategic direction for, the OECD's flagship Inclusive Growth Initiative and the New Approaches to Economic Challenges, while also overseeing the OECD's work on Education, Employment and Social Affairs. A champion for gender equality, Ms Ramos has overseen the launching of the OECD's Gender Strategy, and pioneered initiatives such as NiñaSTEM Pueden, an initiative to challenge stereotypes and encourage young girls in Mexico to take up STEM subjects. In recognition of her efforts on inclusive growth and gender equality, Ms Ramos was awarded the Forbes Prize for Entrepreneurial Excellence in June 2017.

To support member and partner countries with their policy reforms agendas, Ms Ramos launched the OECD's Better Life Series and the "Getting it Right" publications, which includes tailored policy advice. She is also the Head of the OECD Task Force for Greece. She was decorated with the Ordre du Merit by the President of France in 2013.

Previously, Ms Ramos served as Head of the OECD Office in Mexico and Latin America, where she co-ordinated several reports on Mexico to advance health and education reforms.

Prior to joining the OECD, Ms Ramos held several positions in the Mexican Government, including Director of Economic Affairs (and OECD issues) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Technical Secretary at the Office of the Minister for the Budget. She has also held several positions as Professor of International Economy at the Universidad Iberoamericana and at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México. Ms Ramos holds an MA in Public Policy from Harvard University, and was a Fulbright and Ford MacArthur fellow.



JĀNIS REIRS

Minister of Welfare, Latvia

Mr Jānis Reirs is Minister for Welfare of the Republic of Latvia (Unity Party (“Vienotība”) / EPP group), and his responsibilities include social protection, employment, labour law, family and children’s rights, equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and gender equality.

Mr Reirs, having a business background, was elected to the Saeima (Parliament) of the Republic of Latvia in 2002 and subsequently was appointed Minister for Special Assignments on e-Government (2004 – 2006). In the Parliament, Mr Reirs was member of the Public Expenditure and Audit Committee and later chaired the Budget and Finance Committee (2010 – 2014). After the Parliamentary elections of 2014, Mr Reirs was appointed Minister for Finance (2014 – 2016) and served in that position during the Latvian Presidency of the EU Council (2015).

Mr Reirs has also been active in the field of Baltic cooperation. As Member of the Parliament, he held the position of Head of the Latvian delegation as well as President and Presidium Member of the Baltic Assembly.



ADOLFO RUBINSTEIN

Minister of Health, Argentina

Minister Rubinstein is a doctor graduated with honors from the School of Medicine of the University of Buenos Aires (UBA). He also graduated as Master in Clinical Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health, and as Doctor of Medicine in Public Health from UBA. He graduated in International Health Economics from the University of York, UK. He is a Full Professor of Public Health and Family Medicine, and Director of the Master in Clinical Effectiveness at the UBA School of Medicine. He was appointed Visiting Professor, in the Lowen Program of Cardiovascular Prevention at the Harvard School of Public Health.



FATMA BETÜL SAYAN KAYA

Minister of Family and Social Policy, Turkey

Fatma Betül Sayan Kaya was born in İstanbul in January 31, 1981. She graduated from Bilkent University, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. After her studies on the screening of breast cancer in NYU- Poly, she completed her MD degree in Cerrahpaşa Medical School. She was elected as the Member of Provincial Board from Justice and Development Party in 2009. Between 2010-2012, she was the Advisor to the Honorable Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Justice and Development Party Founding Chairperson. In 2012, she was re-elected as the Member of Board in İstanbul from Justice and Development Party and was appointed as the İstanbul Deputy Provincial Head responsible for publicity and media. During the Presidency elections held in 2014, she acted as the manager on publicity and media in ERDOGAN ISTANBUL election office.

She was elected as the Member of CDAC and appointed as the Deputy Chairperson responsible for R&D in the 5th Ordinary Congress of Justice and Development Party, held in September 12, 2015. She was elected as the Deputy for İstanbul in the parliamentary elections held in November, 2015. In November 25, 2015, she was appointed as the Deputy Chairperson responsible for external relations in Justice and Development Party. She fluently speaks English and German. She is married with two children.



STEFANO SCARPETTA

Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD

Stefano Scarpetta is Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs at the OECD since 2013. As director of ELS, he is responsible for the design and the implementation of the medium-term strategy of the Organisation on labour market and social policy issues as well as international migration and health issues. He represents the OECD in High-Level fora and academic conferences; liaise with key senior stakeholders and provide effective communication with the media. As a member of the Senior Management team of the Organisation, he also contributes to support and advance the strategic orientations of the OECD. Previously, he held several positions in the Economics Department and in his current Directorate. From 2002 to 2006 he also worked at the World Bank, where he took over the responsibility of labour market advisor and lead economist. He has published extensively in academic journals, edited several books. Mr. Scarpetta holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociales (EHESS), Département et Laboratoire d'Economie Théorique Appliquée (DELTA) in Paris and a Master of Science in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



AMEDEO TRAMBAJOLO

Diplomatic Adviser to the Minister for Labour and Social Policies, Italy

Amedeo Trambajolo, graduated both in Law and Political Science, undertook his diplomatic career in 1987, covering several positions in Italy and abroad. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on February 14th, 1987. From 1987 to 1989 he was the international cooperation in the field of the scientific research. From 1989 to 1997 he served as a Deputy Ambassador in Zambia, Albania and Norway. He served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1997 to 2002, where he was in charge for the European Union economic issues and the internal market. From 2002 to 2006, he served in the Permanent Representation of Italy to the UE .He was in charge of environmental issues and, later, of the EU external relations. From 2006 to 2010, he served as First Counselor to the UN Representation in New York, as a member of the Italian delegation in the Security Council and Head of the political issues. He served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2010 to 2011, where he was in charge for the UN Security Council reform. From 2011 to 2015, he was Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva. From December 2015, he held the position of Diplomatic Advisor to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy.

Notes



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