PRESS RELEASE

Beginning on Friday, September 1st (at 8:45 am sharp) at Villa d'Este, Cernobbio, and concluding on Sunday, September 3rd (at approx. 2:00 pm), will be our 43rd annual Forum:

"INTELLIGENCE ON THE WORLD, EUROPE, AND ITALY"

The mission and intent of the Forum is to offer international and Italian decision-makers from the world of business, government, science and technology, the opportunity for serious, high-level examination - with the support of analyses, studies and statistics - of geopolitical, economic, technological and social scenarios and their implications for business and the nations of the world.

For the fourth consecutive year The European House - Ambrosetti has been named as the no. 1 private think tank in Italy, ranking in the European top ten and ranking in the World top one-hundred most-esteemed independent out of 6,846 Think Tanks globally, in the University of Pennsylvania 2016 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report. Consistent with this recognition, numerous analyses, reports and strategic studies we have prepared will be presented during the Forum.

The Forum program:

**Friday, September 1st**
- Future global challenges and impacts on business
- The global economic outlook
- Today the world of tomorrow – Scientific and technological developments
- Towards a new global dialogue
  - Governments’ points of views of Italy, Russia, US, China and Singapore

**Saturday, September 2nd**
- The Agenda to change Europe
  - Speech by the First Vice President of the European Commission Frans Timmermans
  - The Europe we want
  - The future of the Euro
  - Competitiveness and growth
- The future of labor: measuring impacts of technology in the Italian and European labor market
- Country Focus USA, with the speeches of Senators Lyndsey Graham and John McCain, of Laura d’Andrea Tyson and the head of US National Intelligence Dan Coats
- Speech by the Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni
  
  *Launch of Peres Heritage Initiative*

**Sunday, September 3rd**
- Italy in the global outlook
  - Oppositions’ points of view
  - Justice
  - The challenge of research and innovation
  - Key drivers to relaunch Country’s growth
  - The frontiers of security
  - Competitiveness and growth
  - Economy and finance
As always, during the sessions, many constructive comments and research results prepared by us will be presented. These include:

- A comparative analysis on main economic indicators of the principal economies, re-elaborated by The European House – Ambrosetti on estimates of 16 financial institutions;
- Ambrosetti Club Economic Indicator – third update of 2017 on economic perspectives, employment and firms’ investments of Italy;
- Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Treats of Rome: a history of achievements, we should not take for granted;
- Brexit one year later: main implications and proposals to manage the transition underway;
- Technology and Labour: steering the change - Measuring impacts of technology in the Italian and European labor market;
- The improvement of the judicial system and the fight to corruption to foster a pro-business environment and attractiveness in Italy;
- e-Mobility Revolution. Impacts on Italy and its industrial value chain – study prepared in collaboration with Enel;
- The future of Urban Mobility: a new integrated vision for Italian cities – study prepared in collaboration with FSI;

As in other years, the event will take place behind closed doors. We would also be happy to arrange, at your request, interviews or other services with Forum speakers, if they are available.

We wish to remind you that the Forum is a private initiative and, as such, will necessitate respect of rules of behavior intended to ensure that the Forum proceeds fruitfully in a tranquil atmosphere. The accredited press is therefore invited to review and comply with the guidelines that will be distributed at the time of registration and that are already available for download from our website: http://www.ambrosetti.eu/en/media-relations/press-kit.

We ask that you please communicate the list of the journalists assigned to this event no later than 1:00 pm, Wednesday, August 30th, together with any requests for conducting interviews, to:
carlobruno&associati – Milan; tel. +39 02 49539770
e-mail: l.bruno@carlobrunoassociati.com; l.garrone@carlobrunoassociati.com

We regret that, due to the limited space available at the site of the workshop, we will not be able to accept all the requests for accreditation.

For additional information:
http://www.ambrosetti.eu
@TEHAmbrosetti (hashtag: #TEHA)

Yours sincerely,

Valerio De Molli
Managing Partner

THE EUROPEAN HOUSE - AMBROSETTI
CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

Prince Turki AlFaisal
A member of the House of Saud, the Saudi Arabia royal family, Prince Turki is the current Chairman of the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies. From 1977 to 2001 he was the director general of Saudi Arabia’s intelligence agency, resigning from the position on September 1, 2001. From 2003 to 2005, he served as Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Kingdom and from 2005 to 2007 to the United States of America.

Angelino Alfano
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in the Gentiloni government since December 2016, he was previously Minister of the Interior in the Renzi government from February 2014 to December 2016. He is also National President of the Nuovo Centro Destra party, which he founded in November 2013. He was Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior in the Letta government from April 2013 to February 2014, and Minister of Justice from May 2008 to July 2011.

Gerard Baker
Editor-in-Chief of Dow Jones and The Wall Street Journal, he served as Deputy Editor-in-Chief between 2009 and 2013. Previously, he was U.S. editor and an assistant editor of the Times of London. In 1994, he joined the Financial Times as Tokyo correspondent, moving on to head the paper’s Washington bureau and serving as the FT’s chief U.S. commentator. He also covered economics for the BBC and worked as an economist at the Bank of England and Lloyds.

Michel Barnier
Chief Negotiator of the European Commission’s Task Force for the Preparation and Conduct of the Negotiations with the United Kingdom since October 1, 2016, he was Special Adviser on European Defence and Security Policy to the President of the European Commission from 2015 to 2016. From 2010 to 2014, he was European Commissioner and then Vice President, in charge of Internal Market and Services. Previously, he held various ministerial positions within the French government.

Vincenzo Boccia
President of Confindustria since May 25, 2016, he was previously Vice President of Confindustria, President of Confindustria Assafrica&Mediterraneo and national Vice President of Confindustria Young Entrepreneurs. He is the CEO of Arti Grafiche Boccia, a company from Salerno that operates in the graphic and industrial sector from 50 years with offices in France, Germany, Denmark and Lebanon.

Maria Elena Boschi
Secretary of the Council of Ministers, she was previously Minister of Constitutional Reforms and Relations with Parliament in the Renzi government. She was elected to the Chamber of Deputies with the Democratic Party (PD) in the Tuscany XII constituency on March 5, 2013, and was responsible for reform policies in the Democratic Party’s national secretariat. She is a lawyer who specializes in Corporate Law. Born in 1981, she earned a degree in Law from the University of Florence and a master’s degree in Corporate Law.

Carlo Calenda
Minister for Economic Development of Italy since May 2016, first in the Renzi Cabinet and currently in the Gentiloni Cabinet, he was previously Vice Minister for Economic Development under Matteo Renzi from June 2014 to February 2016 and under Enrico Letta from May 2013 to February 2014. On March 21, 2016, he was appointed Ambassador and subsequently served as Permanent Representative of Italy to the European Union.

Maria Chiara Carrozza
Italian Scientist and Member of the National Parliament. Minister of Education, University and Research from April 2013 to February 2014; from 2007 to 2013 she was Dean at Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna di Pisa, where she was Full Professor of Industrial Bioengineering at the Biorobotics Institute. Member of the IEEE Society of Engineering in Medicine and Biology (EMB), of the IEEE Society of Robotics and Automation (R&A) and of Gruppo Nazionale di Bioingegneria (GNB).

Roberto Cingolani
An Italian physicist, he has been Scientific Director of the Italian Institute of Technology (IIT) since 2005. He is a “champion” of Italian innovation, holding more than 40 patents, and has published about 750 papers in international journals mainly in the field of materials and nanotechnologies.

Dan Coats
Director of National Intelligence since March 16, 2017, he leads the United States Intelligence Community and serves as the principal intelligence advisor to the President. From 1981 to 1999, he served in the U.S. House of Representatives and then in the U.S. Senate. He served as Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany from 2001 until 2005. He returned to the U.S. Senate in January 2011 and did not seek reelection in 2016. He retired from the Senate in January 2017.
Vítor Constâncio
Vice-President of the European Central Bank since 2010, he was Governor of Banco de Portugal (1985 – 1986 and 2000 – 2009) and member of the ECB Governing Council (2000 – 2009). He was Guest Professor of Economics at the Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão (1989-2010), culminating a long academic career.

Claudio De Vincenti
Minister for Territorial Cohesion and Southern Italy from December 2016. He is an economist and academic who has assumed many government positions. He was appointed Undersecretary for Economic Development on 28 February 2014 and on 25 June 2014 Vice Minister, since 10 April 2015 he has served as Secretary of State for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the duties of Secretary of the Council of Ministers. He has served as Undersecretary at the Ministry of Economic Development from November 2011 to February 2014.

Luigi Di Maio
Elected to the Italian Parliament in 2013 with the Five Stars Movement (M5S), he is Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies and the youngest person to cover this position in the history of the Italian Republic. Within the Chamber of Deputies he chairs the Parliamentary Committee for the Oversight of Documentation Activity, and is a Member of the XIV Committee for European Affairs and of the Presidential Committee.

Jeroen Dijsselbloem
Minister of Finance of the Netherlands in the second Rutte cabinet and member of the Dutch Labour Party (PvdA), he is the current Eurogroup President. He was elected by its members in January 2013 for a term of two and a half years, and reelected in July 2015 for a second term. He has also been Chairman of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) since 2013.

Arkady Dvorkovich
First Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation since May 2012, he was Aide to the President of the Russian Federation, Head of the Presidential Experts’ Directorate, and Deputy Minister for Economic Development and Trade, after having been Adviser to the Minister. He is a consultant and senior expert, and is Chief Executive and Scientific Director of the Economic Expert Group of the Russian Ministry of Finance.

Fan Gang
Director of the National Economic Research Institute (NERI) and Chairman of the China Reform Foundation, he is one of China’s most influential economists and one of China’s leading reform advocates. He is also President of the China Development Institute (Shenzhen), and Professor of Economics at several top universities in China.

Valeria Fedeli
Minister of Education, University and Research. From March 2013 to December 2016 was Vice-President of the Senate. She has worked in Cgil for 35 years, dealing in particular with public employment and textile sector, as secretary general of the Italian and European textile trade unions. She was Chairman of the European Textile Trade Union (FSE-THC) and Vice President of the New European Industry Federation (EIWF - Textile, Chemical and Mechanical).

Niall Ferguson
Senior Fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, and the Center for European Studies at Harvard University, he has authored fourteen books. His 2011 feature-length film “Kissinger” won the New York International Film Festival’s prize for best documentary. He is the recipient of many prizes and awards and writes a weekly column for The London Sunday Times and The Boston Globe.

Mauro Ferrari
President, Chief Executive Officer and Ernest Cockrell Distinguished Endowed Chair of Medicine at Houston Methodist Research Institute, Houston (Texas, USA), since 2010, he was given full professor appointments at the University of Texas Health Science Center (Internal Medicine) and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (Experimental Therapeutics). An Engineer, he was the founding Chairman of the Department of Nanomedicine and Biomedical Engineering (nBME) that was the first-ever department of nanomedicine in a medical school in the world.

Luciano Fontana
Editor-in-Chief of Corriere della Sera since April 30, 2015, he had previously been the paper’s co-editor (from 2009), deputy editor (from 2003), chief managing editor (from 2000), and deputy managing editor (starting in 1997, when he joined Corriere della Sera). He is an expert in Italian and international politics. As co-editor of Corriere della Sera, he oversaw the launch of the paper’s web edition.

Jacob A. Frenkel
Chairman of JPMorgan Chase International and of the Board of Trustees of the Group of Thirty (G-30), he was previously at the helm of AIG and Merrill Lynch International and was Governor of the Bank of Israel. He was a member of the Economic Advisory Panel of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Director of Research at the International Monetary Fund and Professor of International Economics at the University of Chicago.
Carl Benedikt Frey
Co-Director of the Oxford Martin Programme on Technology and Employment at the Oxford Martin School, and Economics Associate of Nuffield College, both at the University of Oxford, he is also a Senior Fellow of the Programme on Employment, Equity and Growth at the Institute for New Economic Thinking at Oxford, and the Department of Economic History at Lund University. His research focuses on the transition of industrial nations to digital economies, and the subsequent challenges for economic growth, labor markets and urban development.

Fu Ying
Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People’s Congress of China since March 2013, she joined China’s Foreign Service in the late 1970’s. From 2009 to 2013, she served as the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs. Previously, she was China’s Ambassador to the Philippines, Australia and the United Kingdom. She is currently chair of the Academic Committee of the newly established China’s Institution of International Strategy (CIIS) of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), and vice chairman of the China Center for International Economic Exchanges (CCIEE).

Clemens Fuest
President of Ifo Institute since April 2016, he is also Director of the Center for Economic Studies (CES) at the University of Munich. In addition, he is Professor of Economics and Chair of Economics and Public Finance in the Economics Department at the University of Munich. His main areas of interest are economic and fiscal policy, international taxation, transfers and labor markets, and European integration.

Guido Gentili
Journalist, Director of Il Sole 24 Ore, Radio 24, Radiocor Plus Agency and 24 Ore Group. Previously, was columnist for politics and economics at Corriere della Sera and Director of the weekly "Il Mondo".

Paolo Gentiloni
Prime Minister of the Italian Republic since December 12, 2016, he was previously Minister of Foreign Affairs and of International Cooperation in Prime Minister Matteo Renzi’s cabinet (2014-2016) and Minister of Communications in Prime Minister Romano Prodi’s second cabinet (2006-2008). A Member of Parliament since 2001, he was the Chairman of the Broadcasting Services Watchdog Committee, and a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (XVII legislature). He was the Chairman of the Italy-USA section of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Enrico Giovannini
Professor of Economic Statistics at the University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, he also teaches Public Management at LUISS University. He was Minister of Labor and Social Policies from April 2013 to February 2014. From August 2009 to April 2013, he was President of the Italian Statistical Institute (ISTAT). From January 2001 to July 2009, he was Chief Statistician and Director of the Statistics Directorate of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Lindsey Graham
United States Senator from South Carolina since 2003, he has earned a reputation as a conservative problem-solver and one of the strongest proponents of a robust national defense. Prior to serving in the Senate, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994 as the first Republican from the Third Congressional District of South Carolina since 1877. Before being elected to Congress, he compiled a distinguished record in the United States Air Force as he logged six-and-a-half years of service on active duty as an Air Force lawyer.

Angel Gurría
Secretary-General of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) since 2006, he came to the OECD following a distinguished career in public service in Mexico, including positions as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Finance and Public Credit. A regular contributor to some of the world’s leading newspapers and journals, he has received several awards and decorations from more than 30 countries, including the titles of Grand officier de la Légion d’honneur and Chevalier dans l’ordre du Mérite agricole, awarded by the French Government.

Abraham Heifets
An expert in big data and high-performance computing, he is the Founder and CEO of Atomwise, a company working on the discovery of new drugs through Artificial Intelligence. After completing his B.Sc. and M.Eng. at Cornell, he worked on high-performance computing at IBM’s T.J. Watson Research Center. As a doctoral candidate at the University of Toronto, he created SCRIPDB, one of the largest public databases of patented chemical structures, and LipAlign, a protein analysis tool used by researchers in 70 countries. He is a fellow of Massey College and the Ontario Brain Institute.

Andrew Hessel
A futurist and catalyst in biological technologies, helping industry, academics, and authorities better understand the rapid changes happening in life science, he is a Distinguished Researcher with Autodesk in their SF-based Life Sciences group, which is creating software tools for molecular and living systems. He is also the co-founder of Humane Genomics, which is developing virus-based therapies for cancer. He is co-chair of Bioinformatics and Biotechnology at the Singularity University, located at the NASA Research Park in Mountain View, California.
Bruno Le Maire  
Minister for the Economy and Finance of France, he was appointed to Prime Minister Edouard Philippe’s Government by Emmanuel Macron on May 17, 2017. He had previously been Minister of Agriculture and Food (2009-2012), Secretary of State for European Affairs (2008-2009), and Regional Councilor for Haute-Normandie (2010-2016). He has been a member of the National Assembly since 2007.

Giovanni Legnini  
Vice President of the Supreme Council of Magistrates since September 2014, he is a Civil Lawyer admitted to the Supreme Court bar in 2000. He has held roles in the Senate, in the Chamber of Deputies, at Palazzo Chigi and at the Ministry of Economy and Finance. With the Letta Government, he was Undersecretary of State to the Prime Minister’s office in charge of Publishing and the Implementation of the Program. With the Renzi government, he was Undersecretary at the Ministry of Economy and Finance in charge of a number of important areas.

Enrico Letta  
Prime Minister of the Italian Republic from April, 2013, to February, 2014, he is currently Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po, in France. He was a member of the Italian Parliament from 2001 to June 2015, excluding from 2004 to 2006, when he served in the European Parliament.

John McCain  
United States Senator from Arizona since 1987, he currently serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services. After serving for 22 years as an officer in the United States Navy, including six years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam, he was first elected to the United States House of Representatives from Arizona in 1982 and, after serving two terms, was elected to the United States Senate in 1986. In 2008, he was the Republican Party’s nominee for president.

Marco Minniti  
Minister of the Interior since December 2016, he was elected Senator in the XVII legislature with the Democratic Party. Prior to his present post, he held several governmental positions, including Deputy Minister of the Interior in the second Prodi cabinet and Secretary of the Council of Ministers responsible for national security in the Letta and Renzi cabinets.

Ernest J. Moniz  
United States Secretary of Energy from 2013 to January 2017, he served on the Massachusetts Institute of Technology faculty from 1973 until becoming Secretary of Energy in 2013 and is now the Cecil and Ida Green Professor of Physics and Engineering Systems emeritus and Special Advisor to the MIT President. He previously served as Under Secretary of Energy from 1997 until January 2001 and as Associate Director for Science in the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President from 1995 to 1997.

Mario Monti  
President of Bocconi University, he is Senator for life of the Italian Republic. He served as Chairman of the High-level Group on Own Resources of the European Union (2014-2017), Prime Minister of Italy (2011-2013) and Minister of Economy and Finance (2011-2012). He served for ten years as a member of the European Commission, in charge of the Internal Market, Financial Services and Tax Policy (1995-1999), then of Competition (1999-2004).

Pierre Moscovici  
European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs since 2014, he is a French politician. He previously served as Minister of the Economy and Finance in France and was Vice President of the European Parliament.

Carlo Nordio  
An expert in Economic Criminal Law, he was Deputy Public Prosecutor of the Republic in Venice until February 2017. He is President of the Ministerial Commission for the Reform of the Status of Public Officials. He was President of the Ministerial Commission for the Reform of the Criminal Code from 2002 to 2006. In 1977, he became a Judge and started working in the Court of Venice.

Günther H. Oettinger  
European Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources since January 2017, he was European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society from 2014 to 2016 in the Juncker Commission and European Commissioner for Energy from 2010 to 2014 in the second Barroso Commission. From 2005 to 2010, he was Minister-President of Baden-Württemberg, Germany, and Chairman of the CDU in Baden-Württemberg.

Andrea Orlando  
Minister in the Gentiloni Government since December 2016 and in the Renzi Government since February 2014, he had previously been Minister for the Environment in the Letta Government starting in April 2013. A member of the Italian Parliament, he was a member of the Chamber of Deputies’ Budget Committee and of the Parliamentary Anti-mafia Committee. With the Democratic Party, he was the Chief of Organization and the Party’s spokesman with Walter Veltroni and Dario Franceschini. Pier Luigi Bersani appointed him Chair of the Party’s Justice Forum.
Pier Carlo Padoan
Italy’s Minister of Economy and Finance, he was previously Chief Economist and Deputy Secretary-General of the OECD. He was the Italian Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund and has been a consultant to the World Bank, the European Commission, and the European Central Bank.

David Parker
Director of Human Spaceflight and Robotic Exploration at the European Space Agency (ESA), he has a number of responsibilities including ExoMars, the flagship European exploration mission with Italian industrial leadership and international co-operation with Russia and the US. He started his career at British Aerospace Space Systems, then joined Matra Marconi Space (UK), from which he was selected for a secondment to the British National Space Centre (BNSC), the predecessor of the UK Space Agency.

Giuliano Poletti
Minister for Labor and Welfare since February 2014, he was previously President of the National Legacoop, President of Coopfond (Legacoop’s fund for the promotion of cooperatives) and President of the Alliance of Italian Cooperatives (the national organization made up of the three Italian cooperative confederations AGCI, Confindustria and Legacoop).

Gianni Riotta
Pirelli Chair at Princeton University, French and Italian Department and Codirector Master Macom School of Government Luiss University, Rome. He is also a columnist for La Stampa and works on Big Data theory in the Catchy start up network. He was editor Rai Tg 1, editor Sole 24 Ore, coeditor La Stampa, deputy editor Corriere della Sera, columnist and foreign correspondent. His last book is Il mondo di Steve McCurry (Mondadori 2016).

Alec Ross
An expert on innovation, he is currently Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Johns Hopkins University. He was Senior Advisor for Innovation to the Secretary of State Hillary Clinton from 2008 to 2012. Previously, he served as the Convener for Obama for America’s Technology, Media & Telecommunications Policy Committee on Barack Obama’s 2008 presidential campaign. His book, “The Industries of the Future”, which discusses, among other things, the coming impact of digital technology on money and markets, was published in February 2016.

Nicola Rossi
Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Banca Popolare di Milano since April 2016, he has also been Full Professor of Political Economy at the University of Rome “Tor Vergata” since 1993. From April 2008 until February 2013, he was a member of the Italian Senate. From May 2001 to April 2008, he was a member of the Chamber of Deputies for the L’Ulivo coalition.

Nouriel Roubini
Chairman and CEO of Roubini Macro Associates, LLC, he is also a professor of economics at New York University’s Stern School of Business. He served as the senior economist for international affairs on the White House Council of Economic Advisers. The International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and numerous other prominent institutions have drawn upon his consulting expertise.

Matteo Salvini
Federal Secretary of Lega Nord (the Northern League party) since December 2013, he has also been a member of the European Parliament since 2009. He has been a member of Lega Nord since 1990. He was head of the party’s youth movement in Milan from 1994 to 1997 and, from 1998 to 2004, was Provincial Secretary of the Milan Lega Nord. He is a professional journalist.

Wolfgang Schüssel
Austrian Federal Chancellor from February 2000 until 2007, he is President of the Board of Directors of United Europe, a pro-European organization that aims at building a Europe that can ensure peace, liberty and prosperity for the next generation of Europeans. From 1995 until 2000 he was Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs. Prior to that, he was Federal Minister for Economic Affairs from 1989 to 1995). From 1995 to 2007, he was National Chairman of the Austrian People’s Party.

Paola Severino
Dean at the University LUISS Guido Carli in Rome, she was the Italian Minister of Justice from 2011 to 2013 in the Monti Government. She is a Member of the ethic committee of Fondazione Vodafone and Confindustria. She is President of Italian Group of the International Association on Criminal Law (AIDP) and member of the “Reflection and Strategic Guidance Committee” promoted by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Tharman Shanmugaratnam
Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore since May 2011, he also serves as Chairman of the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Since October 2015 he has been also the Coordinating Minister for Economic & Social Policies. He has been the Chairman of the Group of Thirty since January 2017 and Chairman of the International Monetary and Financial Committee of the International Monetary Fund since 2011. He was Minister of Education from 2003 to 2008, and Minister for Manpower from 2011 to 2013. Concurrently, he held the office of Minister of Finance from 2007 to 2015.

Adnan A. Shihab-Eldin
Director General of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences and Senior Advisor at the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, he served as Secretary General of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in 2005. From 2001 to 2006, he served as Director of the Research Division at OPEC. He is also a Board Member of SBC Energy Institute. From 1999 to 2001, he served as Director of the Division for Africa, East Asia and Pacific in the Department of Technical Co-operation at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna.

Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President of the EU Commission, in charge of Better Regulation, Interinstitutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, since 2014, he is a Dutch politician who served as Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012 to 2014. Previously, he was Member of the Dutch parliament, representing Partij van de Arbeid (Dutch Labour Party) from 2010 to 2012, and Minister of European Affairs from 2007 to 2010.

Giovanni Toti
President of the Liguria Region from 11th June 2015. From July 2015 he is also Vice President of the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces. In April 2014, he was nominated for Forza Italia in the European elections in the North-West Italy district, gaining more than 148,000 preferences and becoming thus a member of the European Parliament. Professional journalist since October 1999, is a member of Lombardy professionals.

Jean-Claude Trichet
Former President of the European Central Bank, he is European Chair of the Trilateral Commission and Honorary Governor of the Banque de France He is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bruegel and a Member of the "Institut de France" (Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques). From late 2010 until the end of October 2011 he was also Chairman of the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB). He chaired the Group of Thirty (Washington, USA) until January, 2017.

Adair Turner
Chairman of the Institute for New Economic Thinking since 2013, he previously chaired the UK Financial Services Authority (2008-2013) and played a leading role in the redesign of the global banking and shadow banking regulation as Chairman of the International Financial Stability Board’s major policy committee.

Laura D’Andrea Tyson
Distinguished Professor of the Graduate School of the Haas School of Business, she chairs the Board of Trustees of the Blum Center for Developing Economies, both at the University of California, Berkeley. She’s a former member of the Foreign Affairs Policy Board at the U.S. Department of State. She was a member of President Obama’s Council of Jobs and Competitiveness and of the President’s Economic Recovery Advisory Board. She served in the Clinton administration as head of the Council of Economic Advisers (1993-95) and as the President’s National Economic Adviser (1995-96).

Margrethe Vestager
European Commissioner for Competition since 2014, she is a Danish politician. She previously served as Minister for Economic Affairs and the Interior, Minister for Education, political leader of the Social Liberal Party, and Chairwoman of the parliamentary group.

Geert Wilders
A member of the Dutch Parliament since 1998, he is the founder and leader of the Party for Freedom (PVV) in the Netherlands. Geert Wilders’ party PVV gained 33% more seats in the latest national elections in March 2017 and is now the second biggest party in the Dutch parliament. In 2008, he attracted international attention because of Fitna, a documentary he filmed that explores Islamic terrorism and the spread of Islam in the Netherlands.

Rafael Yuste
Professor of Biological Sciences and Neuroscience at Columbia University (USA), he joined the Department of Biological Sciences at Columbia University in 1996. He became a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and co-director of the Kavli Institute for Brain Science in 2005 and Director of the NeuroTechnology Center at Columbia in 2014. He has obtained many awards for his work and led the group of researchers who proposed the Brain Activity Map Project, sponsored by the White House’s BRAIN initiative.