

Speakers' Profiles

Antoine Savary, European Commission *DG Home, Deputy Head of Unit dealing with legal migration & integration*



After having held several positions in the French local and national government, Antoine Savary joined the Joint research Center of the European Commission in 2004. Subsequently he moved to DG JLS (ex DGHOME) in 2007 where he became in 2012 Deputy Head of the Unit in charge of EU Funds in the field of migration. In this function he has worked on the negotiation and adoption of the 2014-2020 financial instruments in the field of migration.

Since July 2015 he has been Deputy Head of Unit at DG HOME dealing with legal migration and integration.

Cédric Van Styvendael, Est Métropole Habitat *General Director*



Cédric Van Styvendael is General Director of Eastern Habitat Métropole since 1 January 2014. The organisation, a member of Union Sociale pour l' Habitat (USH), the French partner of Housing Europe, manages around 14.000 homes and has more than 300 partners. After his term at the Habitat and Territories Council on issues of urban local management, urban renovation and strategy, Cédric became General Manager of Villeurbanne Eastern Habitat.

He is member of the Board of Housing Europe as well as a member of the executive committee of USH.

Karsten Gerken, City of Leipzig *Head of the Office for Urban Regeneration and Residential Development*



Since 1991 Head of the Office for Urban Regeneration and Residential Development, mainly responsible for the Development and Execution of the Urban Regeneration strategy for the city of Leipzig, the implementation of all subsidy programmes for urban regeneration and the coordination of municipal investments in urban renewal areas. Karsten is a project director for URBAN II and ERDF programmes and he is also responsible of small scale implementation of urban regeneration tasks as responsible organisation for urban renewal in Hamburg and development of administrative structures after the political change (1990) in Chemnitz.

Kristoffer Rønde Møller, Danish Federation of Social Housing, BL *Community and Development Consultant*



Kristoffer is currently working as a community and development consultant in the Danish Federation of Social Housing, BL. With more than eight years of experience within the Danish not-for-profit housing sector his primary area of expertise is the Danish model of inclusionary urban planning and design. Kristoffer works on urban planning and social sustainability, often referred to as the "soft infrastructure" of urban design. His key focus area has been the integration of spatial and social design in order to create communities that are both environmentally and socially sustainable – 'future cities for people'.

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Linda Hutchinson, Northern Ireland Housing Executive *Race Relations Officer*



Linda Hutchinson is Race Relations Officer with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, United Kingdom. The Housing Executive is a social housing landlord to over 87,000 properties, has almost 3,000 staff and has an annual budget of £750 m (over €1 b).

Marco van Dijk, Jutphaas Wonen *Head of Development and Maintenance*



Since 2012 Marco has been working for Jutphaas Wonen as head of Development and Maintenance. This is a small housing association with approximately 1800 dwellings with the ambition to grow to 2000 dwellings. With a background on building construction and also trained in business administration Marco has worked in the past for another housing association in the city of Bodegraven which merged with a housing association in the city of Gouda to become Mozaiek Wonen.

Marella Verhagen, Jutphaas Wonen *Head of Development and Maintenance*



Marella Verhagen has been working as a policy maker for Jutphaas Wonen for the past ten years. Following her studies on Urban and Regional planning with a specialisation in Public Housing at the University of Amsterdam she did research regarding the concentration of population in Tokyo, Japan for one year. After her experience with two different housing associations in London and South East England Marella returned to the Netherlands and worked for a real estate developer before joining Jutphaas Wonen.

Michaela Kauer, Brussels Liaison Officer of the City of Vienna *Director*



Michaela Kauer, born in 1966, was raised in Brussels and Vienna. After school, she worked with international youth organisations and became one of the first Austrian trainees with the European Commission in 1991. In 1992, she started working for the City of Vienna, where she held several posts, first as press officer on housing and urban renewal, later as policy officer in women's issues, integration, consumer protection and human resources, social affairs and health.

From 2001 onwards, she served as head of cabinet of two city councillors, Renate Brauner and Sonja Wehsely. In 2009, she was appointed director of the Brussels Liaison Office of the City of Vienna. In this function, she is the representative of Vienna in the Executive Committee of Eurocities and in the newly created EU Urban Partnership on Housing. She studied international public management and teaches European public policy in Austrian professional business schools.

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Ulrika Sax, Swedish Association of Public Housing Companies, SABO *Senior Expert*



Ulrika is a housing researcher with a PhD from the school of Architecture at the Royal Technical Institute, KTH, in Stockholm. After her doctoral exam she worked as housing researcher at the executive staff of Svenska Bostäder, the largest public housing company in Sweden. Since 2000 Ulrika has been a Senior expert at SABO, the Swedish association of Public Housing Companies.

Susanne Caarls, Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations *Representative of the Dutch EU Presidency working on the EU Urban Agenda*



Susanne Caarls has been working at the Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations for the past fourteen years. She has worked on local government issues at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and she was involved in development of the Housing sector in the Dutch Caribbean.

She is currently working on the EU Urban Agenda, the priority for the Dutch Ministry of Interior, as a programme manager Partnerships and in that capacity responsible for the development of these partnerships.

Thomas Jezequel, EUROCITIES *Policy Advisor for Social Inclusion*



Since October 2014 Thomas has been policy advisor for social inclusion at EUROCITIES, covering the fields of Migration & Integration, Education, and Housing & providing support to the Social Affairs Forum. He coordinates the organisation of the EUROCITIES bi-annual Social Affairs Forum.

He was from November 2012 to October 2014 the Project Coordinator for migration and integration at EUROCITIES, coordinating the "ImpleMentoring" project involving 14 European Cities in a mentoring scheme of city to city support for migrant integration.

Sorcha Edwards, Housing Europe *Secretary General*



Sorcha joined Housing Europe team in 2003. She is the Secretary General leading the Brussels team of the organisation.

Sorcha coordinated the POWER HOUSE EUROPE Project, an initiative aimed at creating National and European Platforms of key stakeholders in order to promote energy efficiency and sustainable energy in housing.

After her Communication & Language degree during which she studied a year in Germany, she completed a Master in European Policies at the University of Leuven, Belgium. She has also worked for the Irish Institute for European affairs developing training seminars on EU policies and to the TACIS EU Technical Assistance Office to monitor the implementation of the TACIS programme.

