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# Conference Program

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<tr>
<td>08:30-09:00</td>
<td>Registration and Starbucks breakfast</td>
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<td>09:00-09:15</td>
<td><strong>Opening Remarks</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ambassador Donald S. Beyer and Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard</td>
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<td>10:30-10:45</td>
<td><strong>Coffee</strong></td>
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<td>10:45-12:00</td>
<td><strong>Panel Two: Breaking the Glass Ceiling and the Wage Gap in Government, Corporations and Small Business.</strong>&lt;br&gt;Andrea Pfeifer, <em>CEO Immune AG</em>&lt;br&gt;Laurie Fulton, <em>U.S. Ambassador to Denmark</em>&lt;br&gt;Sylvie Durrer, <em>Director, Swiss Federal Office for Gender Equality</em>&lt;br&gt;Nia Joyson-Romanzina, <em>Global Head of Diversity &amp; Inclusion, SwissRe</em>&lt;br&gt;Bonnie Erbé, <em>CEO &amp; Founder of Persephone Productions</em></td>
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<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td><strong>Buffet Lunch</strong></td>
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<td>14:15-14:30</td>
<td><strong>Coffee</strong></td>
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<td>15:45-16:00</td>
<td><strong>Final Remarks - The Way Forward</strong></td>
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Donald S. Beyer Jr. was sworn in as the United States Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein on August 5, 2009. He took up his duties in Bern on August 15, 2009.

Ambassador Beyer is a nationally recognized political, business and philanthropic leader. Over the last thirty years, he built a strong reputation in Virginia, where he grew a successful and reputable business, and spent eight years as Lieutenant Governor. Throughout his adult life, Ambassador Beyer has been very active in Virginia and national politics. In 2008, he chaired the Transportation and Land Use working group of the Governor’s Virginia Commission on Climate Change. Before his nomination to be Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, he was asked by President-elect Barack Obama to lead the United States Department of Commerce Transition Team.

Ambassador Beyer was elected Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate of Virginia in 1989, on the same ballot as Governor Douglas Wilder. In 1993, he was re-elected, this time to serve with Governor George Allen. In his years in office, Mr. Beyer pioneered many policy and legislative initiatives. He became the first champion for Virginians with physical and sensory disabilities, chairing a disabilities commission for eight years that has become a central responsibility of subsequent lieutenant governors.

Ambassador Beyer also led the Virginia Economic Recovery Commission in 1991-1992, which led to the passage of permanent pro-business reforms, including widespread broadband access, extended economic certainty in land use planning, and the promotion of credit card center locations. He spent two years holding hearings and developing legislative reforms to address the tragic problem of child sexual assault, which resulted in Virginia’s two-strikes-and-you’re-out child molestation law and a Constitutional amendment to extend the statute of limitations for sexual crimes against children.

In 1994-1995, he chaired Virginia’s Poverty and Welfare Reform Commission, which developed and passed the state’s landmark welfare reform legislation, a model for later federal reforms and for those in many other states. In 1997, Mr. Beyer was the Democratic nominee for Governor, a race he lost over the debate on eliminating Virginia’s personal property tax on cars.

In addition to his political career, Ambassador Beyer is recognized as a leader in business. He built a profitable and community-based collection of retail automobile dealerships, representing eight franchises and four manufacturers: Volvo, Land Rover, Subaru, and Kia. The Beyer business brand is one of the best-known retail automobile names in the nation, and Mr. Beyer has served at the highest levels in the industry, including as Chairman of the American International Automobile Dealers Association, and Chairman of the National Volvo Dealer Council. His businesses have won national awards.

Ambassador Beyer and Megan Carroll Beyer married in 1987; they have four children. He is the son of a West Point graduate and career Army officer and the oldest of six children.
Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard
Head of the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC)

As head of the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC), Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard is one of the seven members of the Federal Council, Switzerland's cabinet.

DETEC’s strategy focuses on the principles of sustainable development, which are implemented in terms of policy in the fields of the environment, transport, energy, communications and spatial development. As head of DETEC, Federal Councillor Leuthard is in charge of the seven federal offices that make up the Department and that work together to achieve the Department’s aims, which include environmental and economic interests and public service requirements.

Before taking the helm of DETEC on 1 November 2010, Federal Councillor Leuthard was head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs (FDEA) from August 2006 to October 2010. During this time, she was responsible for the labor market, vocational education and training, technology, innovation, agriculture, housing, national economic supply and trade policy. She represented Switzerland at international organizations including the WTO, OECD, FAO and the World Bank and chaired the EFTA Council. In 2010, Doris Leuthard was also President of the Swiss Confederation.

From 1999 to 2006, Federal Councillor Leuthard was a member of the National Council representing canton Aargau. From 2004 to 2006, she was president of the Christian Democratic People’s Party. During her time in the National Council, she was a member of the following committees: legal affairs, political institutions, judicial, economic affairs and taxation.

Born in 1963, Doris Leuthard studied law at the University of Zurich and completed language and study courses in Paris and Calgary. She was a partner in a law firm. She is married to author Roland Hausin.
Megan Beyer

Megan Beyer is an American journalist, commentator and civic leader. She most recently appeared as a regular panelist on To the Contrary, a weekly news-analysis program airing on more than 251 public television stations in the United States, in Canada, and internationally on Worldnet Television.

Since 1984, she has worked as a reporter and anchor for various local and national television news programs. She began her career as a local reporter for News Channel 8, covering education and politics. She later worked as reporter and anchor for Nation’s Business Today on ESPN; for WTVM-TV news, the CBS affiliate in Richmond; and for HealthWeek on PBS. She then was anchor for The Business Channel, a PBS satellite news service featuring best-selling authors and CEOs of Fortune 500 companies.

She is a frequent columnist to various publications, including the Alexandria Times and Times Community Newspapers, a chain in Northern Virginia. She serves on the Virginia State Board for Community Colleges; on the board of the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education; as a trustee of Washington’s public television station, WETA-TV; and on the national board of Reading Is Fundamental. She was active on numerous charitable organizations and political campaigns, and held leadership positions with the Barack Obama presidential campaign, including as Mid Atlantic Finance Chair for Women for Obama; as a Co-Chair of Women for Obama in Virginia; as a member of the National Finance Committee; and as co-chair of the National Women’s Leadership Initiative Conference.

Megan Beyer received two Emmy nominations and a Virginia Associated Press award for her work at WTVR in Richmond, Virginia. Her lifelong involvement in civic affairs includes service on the boards of the Virginia-Israel Commission; the Woodlawn Plantation; the Athenaeum; Prevent Blindness Mid-Atlantic; the Medical Care for Children Partnership; the Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts; the Richmond Ballet; and Theatre IV. In 1996, Beyer co-chaired, with Lynda Johnson Robb, Every Child by Two, a project to immunize children in Virginia. She has been active in NARAL at the state and national levels.

Born and raised in Alexandria, Virginia, Megan Beyer graduated magna cum laude in 1979 from the University of Richmond, majoring in Journalism. Ambassador and Mrs. Beyer married in 1987. They have two teenage daughters.
Susan M. Elbow
Deputy Chief of Mission U.S. Embassy Bern

Susan Elbow is the Deputy Chief of Mission in the U.S. Embassy in Bern, Switzerland. Prior to her posting in Bern, she was Director of the U.S. State Department’s European Regional Media Center in Brussels, Belgium. A member of the U.S. Diplomatic Service since 1986, she has served as the Public Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, Serbia; Principal Officer in the U.S. Consulate in Hamburg, Germany; Senior Watch Officer in the State Department’s Operations Center; Press Officer in the European Bureau of the State Department; Press Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Budapest, Hungary; Cultural Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador, El Salvador; and as Assistant Director of the Amerika Haus in Frankfurt, Germany.

Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Ms. Elbow worked at the Port Authority of NY & New Jersey as Director of Marketing for the World Trade Centers Network, a trading and communications network, linking World Trade Centers around the globe. She has an M.P.A. from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, an M.A. from the University of Rochester, and a B.A. from Smith College. She speaks German, Hungarian, Spanish, and conversational French and Serbian.
Claudia Andina-Heim
Manager at Tiffany & Co

Claudia Andina-Heim is the head of the Tiffany & Co. in Zürich since 2011. From 2007 to 2010, she was a sales manager at Juwelenhaus AG Zurich and took part in the establishment of the company and performed jewelry auctions and sold and bought vintage and estate jewelry and did valuations for insurances, inheritance and tax offices.

Claudia Andina-Heim headed the jewelry department in Schuler Versteigerungen AG in Zurich from 2000 to 2007 supervising and executing the acquisition of jewelry, customer consultation, reports and valuations including gemological examinations. She performed a language study as a sales assistant at Bucherer SA in Lugano from 1998 to 1999.

Alexandra Baumann
Deputy Regional Coordinator for the USA at the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Alexandra Baumann was appointed Deputy Regional Coordinator for the USA at the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in May 2006. Her main tasks are the coordination of Swiss Foreign Policy towards the United States of America, as well as the strengthening of bilateral cooperation in a variety of areas. In addition, she is responsible for the bilateral relations with the Organisation of American States (OAS).

During her diplomatic training she was posted to the Swiss Embassy in Santiago de Chile for nine months, where she dealt mainly with human rights and development projects. In addition, she was involved in a wide range of issues, from scientific cooperation to the Swiss-Chilean cultural exchange. Before joining the diplomatic service, Alexandra worked for both Switzerland’s and Liechtenstein’s Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York, where she was an advisor for disarmament and non-proliferation issues. Prior to this Alexandra worked for the Communications Department of Swiss International Air Lines, where she was responsible for an international internal communications project.

Alexandra, who lives in Bern, holds a Master’s degree in Political Science and Communication from the University of Zurich and is fluent in German, English, French, Italian and Spanish.
Christine Beerli  
*Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross*

Christine Beerli, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, was born in 1953. A member of a law firm in Biel, Christine Beerli began her political career on that city’s municipal council, where she served from 1980 to 1983. From 1986 to 1991 she was a member of the legislative assembly of the Canton of Bern. In 1991, she was elected to the upper house of the Swiss parliament, where she remained until 2003, chairing the Foreign Affairs Committee (1998-99) and the Committee for Social Security and Health (2000-01).

Christine Beerli chaired the caucus of the Free Democratic Party in Switzerland’s federal assembly from 1996 to 2003. She also served on committees dealing with security policy and economic and legal affairs. She retired from politics in 2003. Since January 1, 2006, she has headed Swissmedic, the Swiss supervisory authority for therapeutic products. She is former director of the School of Engineering and Information Technology at Bern University of Applied Sciences.

Susann Bosshard-Kälin  
*Author, Cultural Journalist and Public Relations Consultant*

Susann Bosshard works as a freelance public relations manager and journalist. She is an entrepreneur with enormous personal commitment. During her long career, she acquired profound knowledge as a public relations consultant, media specialist, journalist and editor. Among other positions, she works as a public relations manager of the Einsiedeln Monastery, participates in other ecclesiastic and social projects, and acts as Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the magazine “women in the army”.

Monique Bourquin Arnold  
*Country Managing Director, Unilever Switzerland*

Born in 1966, Monique Bourquin Arnold holds a degree in Economics from the University of St. Gallen. From 1990 to 1993, she was a management consultant at Price Waterhouse. She then worked as a supervisor for corporate Finance and M&A at STG-Coopers & Lybrand from 1993 to 1994. From 1994 to 1997, she worked at Knorr Nährmittel Ltd. as product manager. She joined Rivella in 1997 as a National Account Manager and was in charge of the major retail channels.

In 1999, Monique Bourquin Arnold joined Mövenpick Foods Switzerland as Sales Director and later as Director Switzerland for the Food Category. In 2002, she took up the position as Customer Development Director at Unilever Switzerland and as Country Managing Director in 2008. She is married and has one daughter.

The Honorable Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe  
*United States Permanent Representative to the UN Human Rights Council*

Ambassador Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe is the first United States Permanent Representative to the UN Human Rights Council. She represents the United States at the 47-member body of elected states, which is the lead UN entity for addressing human rights.

Before undertaking her role as Ambassador, Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe was an Affiliated Scholar at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University. Her research focused on norms on use of force, UN reform, and the international rule of law. Her Ph.D. dissertation addressed conflicting legal and ethical justifications for humanitarian military intervention.

Her legal career included work as a litigation associate at Fenwick & West in Silicon Valley, where she served technology clients in intellectual property and commercial disputes, as a teaching fellow at Stanford Law School, and law clerk to the Honorable William H. Orrick.

Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe has worked with various human rights organizations including The Lawyers’ Committee for Human Rights and Amnesty International’s Ginetta Sagan Fund. She holds a B.A. from Dartmouth College, an M.T.S. from Harvard University, a J.D. from Stanford Law School, a M.A. in East Asian Studies from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. in Ethics from the University of California’s Graduate Theological Union.
Courtney Chapin
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) & Director of Congressional Affairs

Courtney Chapin is the National Endowment for the Humanities’ White House Liaison and Director of Congressional Affairs. Courtney graduated Magna Cum Laude from Harvard University with a degree in Fine Arts.

She comes to the NEH from the Corporation for National and Community Service, where she handled that organization’s corporate outreach by leveraging private sector resources, intellectual capital, and collaborations to support community service.

She was also pivotal to raising financial support for both the Obama Presidential Campaign and the 2009 Presidential Inauguration. Before moving to Washington, DC in 2005, Courtney lived outside London and contributed to a publication for American expatriates. Prior to that, she was as a newspaper columnist in Princeton, NJ. She has two children, Grace, 20, and Jeremiah, 22.

Prof. Mirjam Christ-Crain
Professor of Endocrinology at the University Hospital Basel

Professor Mirjam Christ-Crain, MD, PhD, was born 1974 in Basel. She is professor of Endocrinology at the University Hospital Basel. She studied medicine in Basel and Vienna and obtained the final diploma 1999 and the degree of doctor of medicine in 2000. She then specialized in endocrinology and obtained the FMH title in 2006. 2005 she went to the UK St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, University of London, where she did her PhD.

She was promoted to professor in Basel in 2007 as one of the youngest ever candidates to be awarded a PHD at the Faculty of Medicine. 2009 she received a professorship of the Swiss National Foundation and became consultant and “Leitende Aerztin” at the University Hospital Basel. She has authored and co-authored over 100 original research articles and reviews in the field of endocrinology and diabetes. For her research, she has received several awards and honours, among others the Pfizer Award, the Amerbach Award for the best PHD at the University of Basel and the prestigious National Latsis Award. Besides being a clinician and scientist, she is a much appreciated mentor and several of her students received fellowships to pursue their research careers. She is married and mother of 3 children aged 3 ½, 2 years and 5 weeks.
Dr. Martine Clozel
*Senior Vice President, Chief Scientific Officer, Co-Founder of Actelion*

Martine Clozel is a pediatrician, specialized in neonatal intensive care. She received her MD degree and a Master of Pharmacology from Nancy University, France, and further training in physiology and pharmacology from McGill University, Montreal, and the University of California, San Francisco. She is married and has 3 children.

During 11 years at F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, she initiated the research project on Endothelin and Endothelin receptor antagonists which led to the discovery and clinical development of Bosentan and other molecules. Her group has published over 130 peer-reviewed papers in the fields of endothelial function and dysfunction, Endothelin and Endothelin receptor antagonists. In 1997, she was awarded the Hoffmann-La Roche Research Prize for her achievements in the field of Endothelin research.

In 1997, Martine co-founded Actelion Pharmaceuticals Ltd, where she is Senior Vice President Chief Scientific Officer (CSO).
Ann Crittenden
Author, Journalist & Lecturer

Ann Crittenden is an award-winning journalist, author, and lecturer. Her latest book, *If You’ve Raised Kids, You Can Manage Anything*, received critical praise and was featured in *People* magazine. Her previous book, *The Price of Motherhood*, garnered widespread media attention and was named one of the *New York Times* Notable Books of the Year in 2001. The book is already being called a classic. A women's magazine editor wrote recently, *If The Feminine Mystique* was the book that laid the seeds for the women's movement of the 1960's, *The Price of Motherhood* may someday be regarded as the one that did the same for the mothers' movement.

Ann Crittenden was a reporter for *The New York Times* for eight years, writing on a broad range of economic topics. She initiated numerous investigative reports and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. She has also been a financial writer and foreign correspondent for *Newsweek*, a reporter for *Fortune* magazine, a visiting lecturer at MIT and Yale, an economics commentator for CBS News, and executive director of the Fund for Investigative Journalism.


Ann Crittenden, a native of Dallas, Texas, is a graduate of Southern Methodist University and the Columbia University School of International Affairs. She completed all of the work except for the dissertation for a PhD in modern European history from Columbia. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has served on the board of the International Center for Research on Women. She is married, has one son, and lives in Washington, D.C.
Elisabeth Decrey Warner

*President of Geneva Call*

Elisabeth Decrey Warner, President and co-founder of Geneva Call, is a physiotherapist, politician and human rights advocate. For over 25 years, she has worked with various NGOs on issues relating to refugees, torture and landmines. Her work was recognized in 2005 when she was nominated for Switzerland as one of the 1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize. And in 2006 she was awarded the International Society for Human Rights Prize.

Elisabeth Decrey Warner was a member of the Parliament of the Republic and Canton of Geneva for 12 years before being elected as its President in 2000.

She is also the coordinator of the Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines. She was a member of the Board of the Interdisciplinary Programme in Humanitarian Action of the University of Geneva and of the Board of the Graduate Institute of Development Studies in Geneva. She is currently a member of the advisory Board of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF). She is married with 6 children.

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**Sylvie Durrer**

*Director of the Swiss Federal Office for Gender Equality*

After an initial career in research and teaching at the University of Lausanne, Sylvie Durrer decided to join the ranks of the Vaud cantonal administration to participate in the implementation of policies related to public equality, first as Head of Projects, and then rapidly as Head of Service.

She initiated and accompanied numerous projects in education, employment, domestic violence or day care for children.

Sylvie Durrer took up the position as head of the Federal Office for Equality between women and men on March 1, 2011.
Bonnie Erbé

*Executive-In-Charge of the PBS program, To the Contrary (TTC)*

Bonnie Erbé is host and Executive-In-Charge of the PBS program, *To the Contrary*. This award-winning news analysis program airs nationally in 91% of US TV markets on PBS stations each week and internationally on Voice of America TV. As host of the program, she leads discussions with well-known women journalists and commentators on a variety of significant social issues including presidential and congressional politics, family and medical leave, women in the workplace, the environment, health care, Supreme Court decisions, etc. TTC won the Conference Board Media Award in 2008 as well as the Council on Contemporary Families’ Broadcast Award.

Bonnie Erbé is also a Washington columnist for Scripps Howard Newspapers. From Nov. 2009 to Nov. 2010 she contributed to politicsdaily.com and from April 2005 to Sept. 2010 she was a contributing editor at USNews.com.

For nine years, from 1989 to 1998 Bonnie Erbé was Legal Affairs Correspondent for the Mutual/NBC Radio Networks. She also served as news analyst on the *Jim Bohannon Show* on Mutual.

Bonnie Erbé graduated from Georgetown University Law School in 1987. She is a member of the D.C. and New York bars and while at Georgetown she was on law review. She also has a master's in journalism from Columbia University (1975) and a B.A. in English from Barnard College (1974).
Bonnie Fatio
*Creator of AgeEsteem*

Bonnie Fatio, creator of the groundbreaking concept AgeEsteem®, is an internationally respected speaker who inspires and challenges people of all ages to embrace a positive attitude toward aging.

Her uplifting talks and workshops motivate audiences throughout the world to rethink their views and to live full, exciting lives at every age. Likewise, her book, *AgeEsteem: Growing a Positive Attitude Toward Aging* (Morgan James Publishing, NY, 2008), empowers readers with inspirational anecdotes and practical advice. It is the catalyst for training programs in the United States and Asia.

AgeEsteem is a natural offspring of Bonnie Fatio’s own life story and her breadth of professional experience in business, education and health care. For the past 20 years, she has specialized in motivation and its power to influence positive change in people and organizations. As a founding partner of Blewfield Associates, she uses motivation as a catalyst of change in individuals and companies. Previous positions included teaching management and human resources classes at Webster University in Geneva, and orchestrating the installation of a pediatric congenital heart disease institute within a medical clinic.

Bonnie Fatio has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Special Education from Michigan State University, U.S.A., and a Master of Arts degree in Human Resources Development from Webster University, Geneva, Switzerland. She is married with one daughter and two granddaughters.

Lisa Feldmann
*Editor in Chief of ANNABELLE*

Lisa Feldmann holds a degree in German studies, English literature and art history. She also dedicated herself to Gestalt therapy from 1982 to 1984. She was assistant at the STERN news from 1986 to 1988 and member of the editorial staff. From 1991 to 1992, she was head of the department Culture at TEMPO before becoming Vice-Editor in Chief at ELLE from 1992 to 1995. From 1995 to 1998, she took up the position of the Editor in Chief at COSMOPOLITIAN.

Lisa Feldmann was then in charge of editing and publishing different books and worked as a freelance author. Since May 2004, she is Editor-in-Chief at ANNABELLE.
The Honorable Laurie S. Fulton  
*U.S. Ambassador to Denmark*

Laurie S. Fulton is the U.S. Ambassador to Denmark. She was sworn in on July 15, 2009, and presented her credentials to Her Majesty the Queen of Denmark on August of the same year.

Prior to becoming Ambassador, Fulton was a Partner at Williams & Connolly LLP, where her law practice included complex civil litigation, government investigations, and white-collar criminal defense. In 2004, she was named as one of "Washington's Top Lawyers" by Washingtonian magazine. Fulton also has been active in community and non-profit organizations. In January 2004, she was confirmed by the United States Senate to serve on the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace and was Co-Chair of the USIP International Advisory Council. She has also been active in Bright Beginnings, Inc., the Women's Advisory Board of the Girl Scouts of the National Capital area, the Georgetown University Law School Admissions Interview Program, and the South Dakota Farmers Union Foundation.

Prior to entering the field of law, Fulton worked in various positions on Capitol Hill. From 1982 to 1985, she was Executive Director of Peace Links, an organization dedicated to involving mainstream women to end the threat of nuclear war, engage in peace-building and promote alternative means of resolving international conflicts. Fulton served on the Peace Links Board of Directors from 1989 to 2000. Her work was honored with the Pioneering Peace Builder Award by the National Peace Foundation in 2002.

Fulton earned a B.A. from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law School, both magna cum laude.
Dr. Katja Gentinetta  
*Deputy Director and Head of Strategy and Planning, Avenir Suisse*

After a long career in culture, politics, science and economy Katja Gentinetta is now an independent publisher. Monthly, she hosts the TV show called *Sternstunde Philosophie* at the Swiss national TV, where she discusses social and economic issues with a prominent guest. She completed her studies in history and political philosophy at the universities of Zurich and Paris with a Ph.D. in political philosophy.

Katja Gentinetta directed the *Forum Schlossplatz*, a cultural institution in Aarau and managed thereafter the presentation of the Canton of Aargau at the national exhibition Expo.02. She then was appointed head of strategy and external relations at the state chancellery of Aargau. In her current position as Deputy Director and Head of Strategy and Planning of Avenir Suisse, a think tank headquartered in Zurich, she is focused on social security matters in Switzerland, the problem of «social justice» in general and foreign policy.


Susan Jane Gilman  
*Author*

Susan Jane Gilman is the author of three books: *Kiss My Tiara: How to Rule the World as a SmartMouth Goddess*, a guide to power and attitude for young women; the *New York Times* bestseller *Hypocrite in a Poufpy White Dress*; and her latest, *Undress Me in the Temple of Heaven*, about a disastrous backpacking trek she made through China at age 21. This was named one of the “100 Best Books of 2009” by Amazon, a “Best Nonfiction Book of 2009” by Barnes & Noble, and an Oprah Book Club recommendation.

Her books have been published in six languages, and she has contributed to numerous anthologies about women.
Rebecca Guntern Flückiger
*General Manager of Sandoz Switzerland*

Rebecca Guntern joined Sandoz Pharmaceuticals in September 2007 as Head of Sales where her primary assignment was to restructure and refocus the sales force to changing market environment. In October 2008, she was appointed General Manager of the Swiss organization, overseeing an operation of approximately 110 employees and generating sales of 170 Mio USD per year.

Rebecca Guntern has accumulated more than 10 years of experience within the pharmaceutical industry and started her career as a trainee at F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Switzerland in spring 1998, starting in the Clinical Research department and thereafter moving to the Sales & Marketing Department as Sales Representative. In fall 2000, she was appointed Marketing & Sales Manager Infectiology at Merck Sharp & Dohme-Chibret AG (MSD), the Swiss affiliate of Merck & Co., Inc.

During her tenure with MSD, Rebecca Guntern held various positions in marketing and sales management with increasing responsibilities, for hospital and primary care products and franchises. She contributed substantially to the development of MSD as National Sales Manager for two of the company’s top-selling primary care products and served as member and leader of numerous local and international Marketing and Business Teams. In addition, she led the Sales Force Excellence Team in order to establish and implement a new go-to-market strategy across the organization.

Rebecca Guntern obtained her Masters degree in Pharmacy from the universities of Berne and Basel as well as a Bachelor degree in Business Administration. She holds a skiing instructor license from the canton of Wallis.
Dr. Valerie Gürtler-Doyle  
*Head of Diversity and Inclusion (D&I), Novartis*

Valerie Gürtler-Doyle, PhD. is Head Diversity and Inclusion for Switzerland. In this position she is driving divisional and functional activities related to D&I in Switzerland. She has been with Novartis / Sandoz since 1984.

Valerie Gürtler-Doyle completed her training as a biochemist in Ireland after which she moved to Switzerland to take up a post doctoral position in the University Hospital Basel and later in the Cardiovascular Research Department at Sandoz Pharmaceuticals. She moved to Clinical Research in 1985 where she has held positions of increasing responsibility including Head of Clinical Project Management. In this position she was responsible for setting up the medical department in China.

In 1996, she took over leadership for the Regional Regulatory Affairs - Japan Liaison department for Novartis Pharma AG, which encompassed Eastern Europe, Latin America, Asia Pacific, Middle East and Japan Liaison. In 2005, she assumed responsibility for the Global IQP program Office (Innovation Quality and Productivity; 6 sigma). Under her leadership, IQP has contributed significantly to top and bottom line growth, has built a wide network of Champions and make significant inroads to creating the Innovation culture. In June 2007 she joined the new Market Access function in Region Europe where she was responsible for elaborating and implementing innovative MA strategies with significant commercial impact. In addition she designed and executed the Market Access Leadership Program (MALP) which accelerated the upgrading of MA skills in the CPOs. The program established forward looking cross functional competencies and profiles, a holistic learning framework with key focus on understanding / meeting customer needs and leveraging innovation. She then moved to Corporate Communications as Head of Business Alignment where she was responsible for driving the adoption of social media cross divisionally, with a specific focus on guidelines.

Valerie has also been involved in Novartis’s Diversity & Inclusion program since the beginning, and now leads the Novartis International D&I council. She was a founding member of Healthcare Businesswomen’s Association (HBA) Europe.
Eleanor Tabi Haller-Jorden

*General Manager Catalyst Europe AG*

Eleanor Tabi Haller-Jorden is responsible for developing Catalyst’s memberships and partnerships in Europe and addressing the global diversity needs of Catalyst Europe’s members. She is a former Vice President of Catalyst’s Advisory Services Group. Before joining Catalyst Europe, she gained extensive experience in human resources planning and consulting as the Managing Director of the Paradigm Group. She was also Founder and Director of the Public Policy Center in Philadelphia.

Eleanor Tabi Haller-Jorden is a frequent lecturer at the International Institute for Management Development; the London School of Economics and Political Science; the Yale School of Organization and Management; and Columbia University Business School. She is the Chairperson of the The Humanity Initiative’s Executive Board and is Co-Chair of the Healthcare Businesswomen’s Association (HBA) European Board. She also sits on the EU’s Steering Scientific Committee, Seventh Framework Programme, Meta-analysis for Gender and Science Research, and is on The Academy of Business and Society and Öko-Institut’s Advisory Board for the IMPACT initiative. In addition, the Profiles in Diversity Journal 6th Annual Women Worth Watching issue, which showcases leading businesswomen, designated Eleanor Tabi Haller-Jorden as one of its Women Worth Watching.

Eleanor Tabi Haller-Jorden attended Princeton University as an advanced standing scholar and Bryn Mawr College, where she earned her A.B. magna cum laude in history. She earned her M.Sc. in Industrial Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Eleanor Tabi Haller-Jorden is a single mother of two boys and an avid windsurfer. In her spare time, she is a performance poet and has performed in Zurich, Oslo, and London. She is the owner of the Living Gallery, a virtual art space and gallery in Switzerland.

Sylvie Hoffmann

*Political & Economic Specialist U.S. Embassy Bern*

Sylvie Hoffmann has been working as a political & economic specialist at the U.S. Embassy in Bern since February 2009. Previously, she served as a commercial specialist to the Embassy of France in Bern, as an external relations intern to the Geneva Center for Security Policy and to the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization.

Her portfolio at the U.S. Embassy include Human Rights, Women’s issues, Trafficking in Persons and Religious Freedom in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Besides that, she analyzes and reports on Switzerland and Liechtenstein’s internal political developments and their bilateral and multilateral relations. Sylvie holds a Master’s degree in International Relations from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva.
Ambassador Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch

Member of the Executive Board and Head of the World Trade Division at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch is Delegate of the Federal Council for Trade Agreements, Member of the Executive Board and Head of the World Trade Division at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) in the Federal Department of Economic Affairs (FDEA) in Berne since April 2007. She is responsible for World Trade (WTO, Free Trade Agreements/EFTA and OECD). On April 1, 2011, she will assume the position as State Secretary for Economic Affairs.

From 1999 to 2007 she was Head of the Division WTO, OECD and public procurement at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) in the Federal Department of Economic Affairs (FDEA) in Berne. She was responsible for the preparation and coordination of the overall position of Switzerland in WTO negotiations and represented Switzerland in the Doha negotiations on market access for industrial products and the relationship between trade and environment.

Before joining the WTO Division she was member of the negotiating team for investment protection agreements and worked in the legal service of the former Federal Office for Foreign Economic Affairs. In 1992/1993, just after the accession of Switzerland to the Bretton Woods institutions, Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch worked as the Assistant to the Executive Director of the Swiss constituency in the World Bank.
Nia Joynson-Romanzina
*Global Head of Diversity and Inclusion, Swiss Re*

Nia Joynson-Romanzina, born in Cardiff, Wales in 1970, holds a Bachelor degree in Political Science from the University of Cardiff and two Masters degrees: an MSc in Development Management and MA in Mass Communications from Leicester University.

She has a passion for topics of inclusion. She built up this interest early in her career working for the European Union Commission and international NGOs, building initiatives to promote equal opportunities and inclusion in the labor market and other development projects.

This passion continued to grow through her work with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy, where she entered the emerging world of on-line communications while continuing to be active in gender mainstreaming and socio-economic development programs. Following her move to Zurich, Switzerland, in 2003, Nia Joynson-Romanzina spent a few years raising her two daughters, while earning her second Masters degree.

Nia Joynson-Romanzina joined Swiss Re in 2008 and is the global role of Head of Diversity and Inclusion in May 2010. In this role she has launched a group wide strategy and action plan that addresses the diversity of the employee base at all levels as well as fostering an inclusive corporate culture.

Nia Joynson-Romanzina is a member of Catalyst’s European Board and represents Swiss Re in the Harvard Kennedy School’s Women Leadership Board.

Astri Kimball
*Deputy Counsel to U.S. Vice President*

Astri Kimball is Deputy Counsel to Vice President Biden in the White House. She started in the White House in January 2009, where she served as Deputy Director of the Office of Cabinet Affairs for two years before joining the Vice President’s office. Prior to the White House, Astri Kimball served in the Chicago headquarters of the Obama campaign. She previously worked in the International Dispute Resolution and Strategic Counseling practice groups at O’Melveny and Myers, LLP and at Goldman Sachs.

Astri Kimball is a graduate of New York University law school and Princeton University.
The Honorable Karen Kornbluh  
*U.S. Ambassador to the OECD*

Karen Kornbluh, majored in economics and English at Bryn Mawr before earning a master’s degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She joined then Senator Obama’s staff as policy director during his freshman term in 2005 and was hailed by CNN in 2008 as “Obama’s brain.” She had established a reputation as an innovative thinker at the centrist think tank of the New America Foundation, where she founded the Workforce and Family Program. In 2009, the President appointed her as the US Ambassador to the OECD.

Before joining the New America Foundation, Ambassador Kornbluh served in the Clinton Administration. As assistant chief of the Federal Communications Commission’s International Bureau, she helped negotiate the World Trade Organization Agreement on Basic Telecommunications; she later became deputy chief of staff to Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin. In the early 1990s, she was an aide to U.S. Senator John Kerry on the staff of the Commerce Committee and its Telecommunications Subcommittee.
The Honorable Betty E. King
U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva

Ambassador Betty King was nominated on October 22, 2009, by President Obama to serve as the Representative of the United States to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva. She was confirmed by the U.S. Senate and attested by the President on February 12, 2010.

Ambassador King served as the United States Representative to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations under Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. In that capacity, she worked on human rights, development, children, aging, and population issues. She was the principal U.S. negotiator on the Millennium Development Goals.

Ambassador King has an extensive background in philanthropy having served as the Vice President of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of disadvantaged children. She served as the Senior Advisor to the CEO of the California Endowment where she worked to improve health services and systems, and as an advisor to the Atlantic Philanthropies on their programs for children and youth.

In the public sector, Ambassador King has served as the Deputy Commissioner for Mental Health Services in the District of Columbia, as the Director of the Department on Aging in Arkansas, and as an assistant professor at the University of Arkansas. Before assuming her duties in Geneva, she also served on the boards of Refugees International, The United Nations Association of the United States, Phoenix House, and on the Advisory Board of the Annenberg School of Public Diplomacy.

Ambassador King earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, a Masters Degree at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, was a National Humanities Fellow at Harvard University, and a Public Policy Fellow at the University of California, Los Angeles.
Dr. Ronit Lahav - le Coutre
Biotechnology Manager Nestlé Regulatory Affairs Department

Ronit Lahav – le Coutre founded MelCure SA, a biotechnology company pursuing the clinical development of a new skin cancer (melanoma) therapy based on Ronit’s research at Caltech. Once MelCure’s clinical development was assigned to the Inselspital in Bern, Ronit le Coutre joined Nestlé’s headquarters’ regulatory affairs department as a Biotechnology manager.

Ronit le Coutre holds a Masters degree in Biology from The Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel and a Ph.D from Paris XIII University and College de France. During her postdoctoral training at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), California, USA she was awarded with the Human Frontier Science Program fellowship. After moving to Switzerland, she completed her education with an entrepreneurship program at the Center of Global Management, Babson College, Massachusetts, USA.

Ronit le Coutre is married and has one child, Jonathan.

Alison Lazerwitz
Senior Vice President, Swarovski Corporation AG

Alison Lazerwitz is currently the Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Daniel Swarovski Corporation AG, the global leading producer of cut crystal, genuine gemstones and created stones. Swarovski’s world headquarters are located in Männedorf, Switzerland.

Alison Lazerwitz has over twenty five years of experience in international legal matters, including the development of corporate business integrity/compliance initiatives as well as cross border acquisitions and contracts. Prior to moving to Zurich, Alison spent nine years in Paris working for Sodexo, an international leader in outsourced services. Alison was first the Chief Legal Officer for Sodexo and then the Senior Vice President for International Development.

In addition to living in Europe, Alison has strong ties to the US. She attended the University of Virginia for both her undergraduate and legal training, and practiced law in Philadelphia for the law firm Duane Morris. Alison has also been the Assistant General Counsel for ARAMARK, based in Philadelphia and the General Counsel for the Wood Company, based in Allentown, PA.
Christa Markwalder

*Member of the Swiss National Council*

Christa Markwalder was elected to the Swiss National Council in 2003. Since then she has been member of the Foreign Policy Commission, which she is currently chairing. She is also member of the Committee for Legal Affairs and the German-language Drafting Committee. Since 2007, Christa Markwalder is part of the delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Christa Markwalder started her political career in 1999 with the election to the Grand Council of the Canton of Bern and later in 2002, she became member of the City Council of Burgdorf. She is member of the Free Democratic Party (FDP) and has been presiding the New European Movement Switzerland since May 2006, a movement which campaigns for the membership of Switzerland to the EU. Besides, Christa Markwalder chairs the parliamentary group on renewable energies, the parliamentary group Green Cross, the parliamentary group for environmentally conscious management, and is the co-president of the parliamentary group for voluntary work and volunteering.

Christa Markwalder holds law degree and a certificate in ecology. After her studies, she worked as a research assistant at the Department of Business Law at the University of Bern. Since January 2008, she works as a lawyer for Zurich Financial Services.

Kate Michelman

*Former NARAL Director & Author*

For more than two decades Kate Michelman has been at the nexus of politics and law on one of the most controversial and defining issues of our time. For nearly 20 years, she served as President of NARAL Pro-Choice America, catapulting the organization to prominence as the nation’s premier reproductive rights group. Under Kate’s leadership, NARAL Pro-Choice America transformed the political debate and positioned a woman’s freedom to choose as a fundamental American liberty. During the 2004 presidential election, Kate led the Democratic National Committee’s “Campaign to Save the Court.” Kate was a frequent advisor to former President Bill Clinton. She worked closely with -- and her counsel has been sought by -- many of the most powerful leaders in America, from Senators to Cabinet Secretaries.

A seasoned lobbyist and skilled political strategist, Washingtonian magazine named Michelman one of the capital’s 100 most powerful women and While serving as NARAL’s President, Kate pursued a legislative agenda to keep abortion legal while making it less necessary and built NARAL Pro-Choice America into a dominant force in electoral politics at the state and federal levels. *Fortune Magazine* has described NARAL Pro-Choice America as "one of the top 10 advocacy groups in America." In 2006, Michelman published a memoir entitled *With Liberty and Justice for All*, published by Penguin Books. Michelman is married and has three daughters and six grandchildren.
Karen A. Monroe  
*Partner of Wilk Auslander LLP*

Karen Monroe practices in the area of international corporate and securities, contracts, arbitration, and intellectual property law with an emphasis on cross-border transactions between Switzerland, Europe, and the United States. A New York attorney based in Geneva, Switzerland for more than 15 years, Karen Monroe heads the firm’s European office. She serves as outside general counsel and as a member of the board of directors of Swiss and U.S. for profit and not-for-profit, public and private companies. She is an elected member of the Executive Committee of the Foreign Lawyers Section of the Geneva Bar Association.

A graduate of the International Law Program of American University, Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C., she was an editor of the American Society of International Law Journal and is an active member of professional associations in the field of international corporate, securities, arbitration, and intellectual property law, including the International Bar Association’s Capital Markets, Mergers and Acquisitions, and Securities Law Committees, the Swiss Arbitration Association, and the International Trademark Association. She served for many years on the editorial board of the International Trademark Association’s law journal, *The Trademark Journal*, focusing on international intellectual property issues. She regularly writes or co-authors articles, is asked to speak on international legal and business issues, and is quoted in financial and business publications.

Prior to joining Wilk Auslander Karen Monroe was a member of Burns Summit Rovins & Feldesman, Shustak Jalil & Heller, and Reed Smith.
Sarah Morgenthau

*Director of Peace Corps Response, Peace Corps*

Sarah Morgenthau is currently the Director of Peace Corps Response at the Peace Corps. Sarah Morgenthau, who was appointed by President Obama, arrives at the Peace Corps with considerable legal, financial, and political experience and a long-standing commitment to public service. In addition, she brings proven expertise in working effectively in both the public and private sector and in building relationships that advance organizational, program, and policy objectives.

Most recently, Sarah Morgenthau was actively engaged in the Obama for America Campaign, serving on the National Finance Committee. In that capacity, she was involved in successful fund-raising efforts. She also served as New Jersey state director of Women for Obama. Before that Sarah Morgenthau worked on the 2006 campaign for Mayor Cory Booker in Newark, New Jersey.

Sarah Morgenthau’s legal experience includes a five-year tenure as a litigation attorney with a New York City law firm, as well as a staff attorney position with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, also in New York City, and a clerkship for a U.S. District Court Judge in Newark, New Jersey. Sarah Morgenthau graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a bachelor’s degree in political science from Barnard College and has a law degree from the Columbia University School of Law. Sarah Morgenthau is married to Carlton Wessel, a law partner at DLA Piper LLP. They currently live in Washington D.C. with their three children, Teddy, Henry and Mizia.
Betsy Myers
COO Operating Officer and Senior Advisor, Obama for America (2007-2009) and Chair of Women for Obama Campaign

Betsy Myers is one of the most provocative and challenging Leadership Development experts. Currently, she is presenting and leading workshops around the world on the changing nature of Leadership and is finalizing her book on Leadership which is expected out September 2011.

Betsy Myers served as a senior adviser to Barack Obama’s Presidential Campaign as the Chief Operating Officer. She also represented the campaign as a senior adviser and as Chair, Women for Obama.

Prior to this appointment, Betsy Myers was the Executive Director of the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. She came to Center for Public Leadership in 2003, with a track record of strategically building and realigning organizations.

A senior official in the Clinton Administration, she was the President's senior adviser on women's issues. As Deputy Assistant to the President, she launched and was the first Director of the White House Office for Women’s Initiatives and Outreach.

Myers also served as the Associate Deputy Administrator for Entrepreneurial Development in the U.S. Small Business Administration. She implemented the SBA’s national requirements under President Clinton’s Welfare to Work Initiative and was responsible for the agency’s technical assistance, management, and distance learning programs. In a previous post, Myers was the Director of the Office of Women’s Business Ownership at the SBA. She served as an advocate for the 7.8 million women entrepreneurs in the U.S.

A Public Service Fellow at Harvard’s Kennedy School, she graduated with a M.P.A. in 2000, and then served as the School’s Director of Alumni Programs and External Relations before directing the Center for Public Leadership. Betsy Myers is married and has an 8 year-old daughter.
H.E. Ambassador Chitra Narayanan
Ambassador of India to Switzerland

Ambassador Chitra Narayanan holds a Masters of Arts from the Delhi University. She worked at the press institute of India from 1974 to 1975 before working at Editor & Publisher of The Book Review. In 1978, she joined the Indian Foreign Service and worked in Rome from 1980 to 1983.

From 1983 to 1986, she acted as Deputy High Commissioner of India and Deputy at the Permanent Representative to UNEP & UNHCS, Nairobi, Kenya. She took up the position as Under Secretary at the Americas Division of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi until 1988. She then became Deputy Director of the Ministry of External Affairs at the Foreign Service Institute. From 1991 to 1994, she was the Counselor at the Embassy of India in Washington. She then acted as Joint Secretary, Special Research, in the Ministry of External Affairs from 1995 to 2000 in New Delhi. From 2001 to 2004, she was Ambassador of India to Sweden and Latvia. She acted as Ambassador of India to the Republic of Turkey from 2005 to 2008.

In August 2008, she took up the position as the Ambassador of India to Switzerland.

Dr. Andrea Pfeifer
Chief Executive Officer of AC Immune

As the former head of Nestlé's Global Research in Lausanne, Switzerland, where she managed a group of more than 600 people, Dr. Andrea Pfeifer brings more than 20 years of senior management experience including broad R&D, business and international exposure. While at Nestle, she led the development of the first Functional Food, LC1, and one of the first Cosmeceutical products in a joint venture with L’Oreal, Inéov Fermeté. She also co-founded the Nestlé Venture Capital Fund, a € 100Mio. Life Sciences corporate venture fund.

Dr. Andrea Pfeifer is an international expert in Biotech and a Professor at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland. She completed her studies and doctoral work in Pharmacy and Pharmacology at the University of Würzburg, Germany, and continued with post-doctoral work in Molecular Carcinogenesis at the National Institutes of Health, Human Carcinogenesis Branch, in Bethesda, USA. In 2000, she received her PHD from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. She has published more than 200 papers and abstracts in leading scientific journals.

In 2003, Dr. Andrea Pfeifer was appointed chairwoman of the Biotechmedinvest AG Investment Fund, Basel, Switzerland, and co-founded AC Immune where she holds the position of CEO.
Anouk Poelmann  
*President of Volvo Automobile (Switzerland) AG*

Anouk Poelmann has been working for the Volvo Car Corporation for eighteen years and has held various positions in the company, mainly in the sales and marketing departments. From 1997 to 2002, she worked as a CRM manager in Spain and Brussels, before she was appointed Sales Development Manager for Russia, Latin America, and South Africa. In 2004, Anouk Poelmann became Vice President Sales & Marketing of Volvo Cars Russia, where she successfully contributed to Volvo’s establishment as the best-selling brand in the premium segment. Since July 2009, she has been the President of Volvo Automobile (Switzerland) AG.

Anouk Poelmann holds a MBA in Finance & Marketing of Rotterdam Erasmus University. Besides her native Dutch, she speaks fluently English, German, Spanish and Russian. Anouk Poelmann is married and has a son.

Pälvi Pulli  
*International Relations Advisor to the Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Justice and Police*

Pälvi Pulli has been the Advisor for International Relations to the Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Justice and Police since June 2008. She started working for the Swiss government as a staff member within the Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection and Sports in 1999. In 2005, Pulli became Policy Advisor for International Relations of the Directorate for Security Policy of the Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection and Sports, before she was charged with special projects in the Security Committee of the Swiss Federal Council from 2006 to 2008.

Pälvi Pulli holds a Master’s degree in History & English from the University of Neuchatel, Switzerland. Between 1994 and 2005 she attended languages schools and speaks Swedish, German, French, English, Italian and Russian, besides her native Finnish.
Ambassador Dora Rapold has been heading the Political Affairs Division The Americas of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs since December 1, 2009. Prior to joining the Political Directorate in Berne she was Switzerland’s first Ambassador to Bangladesh from 2005 to 2009. At the same time she headed the Swiss Cooperation Office in Bangladesh.

Ambassador Rapold studied sociology and political science in Zurich, Munich and Mexico. She completed her studies with a PhD in rural development and the role of women from the University of Zurich. For ten years Ambassador Rapold was active in various fields of development, in research, for private organizations and for the UN (UNHCR), and spent most of that time abroad. During all these years, gender was always an important topic in her work.

In 1989, Ambassador Dora Rapold joined the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), first as a Project Manager in Bolivia, then as Head of the NGO Division in Berne. After South Africa’s democratic elections, she was SDC’s Country Director there and was responsible for building the Swiss Cooperation Program which supported transition and democratization in the country. Back in Berne in 1998, she was the first woman to become member of the Senior Management Board of the SDC. She was Assistant Director General and Head of the Thematic Policy and Technical Department in the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for seven years.

Vanessa Reed has been a breast cancer advocate for six years, raising money for breast cancer education and research. She is a Founding Global Ambassador for Susan G. Komen for the Cure. She also sits on the Board of Directors for Sasha Bruce Youthwork, the District of Columbia’s only youth shelter. Vanessa Reed also serves on the National Leadership Council for Communities in Schools, the nation’s largest and oldest drop-out prevention program. She is a member of the Board of Trustees for The Ford’s Theatre; Gala Vice-Chair for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and is active with the non-profit community service organization, The Links Incorporated. She is married with three children.
Barbara Ruf  
*Director of the Office of Equality between Women and Men, Canton of Bern*

Since 2001, Barbara Ruf has been the Director of the Office of Equality between Women and Men of the Canton of Bern. Former professional activities include Co-director of the Office of Equality between Women and Men of the Canton of Aargau; lecturer in social work at the University of Zurich; Substitute Director of a Foundation for the Financing of Social Projects; social worker in a women’s shelter and at a counselling service for raped women.

Barbara Ruf holds a master’s degree in social science and social work from the University of Freiburg i. Ue., Germany, and a master’s degree in public administration from the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration in Lausanne.

Ariane Rustichelli  
*Head of Communications & Marketing, Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OSA)*

Ariane Rustichelli studied art history, history and communications at the Arts Faculty of the University of Neuchâtel, where she obtained a Master’s degree in Art history. She obtained a post-graduated diploma in Marketing and Public Relations from the University of Neuchâtel.

Since 2008, Ariane Rustichelli has been working as Head of Communications & Marketing for the Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OSA). The OSA, which is a non-governmental organization, represents and lobbies for the Swiss expatriates’ interests in Switzerland.

Previously, Ariane Rustichelli served several years as a curator on the Print Room (Print and drawing department) of the Swiss National Library in Bern, as well as the Marketing & Communications department of the Swiss watch company Longines.
Prof. Gudrun Sander  
*Professor in Management and Business Administration, University of St. Gallen*

Gudrun Sander is a lecturer in Management and Business Administration at the University of St. Gallen and at various universities of applied sciences. She works as a equal opportunity consultant. Her research interests include among others controlling of equal opportunity processes, gender issues in the work and organization context, gender in management and career advancement of women. She studied business administration at Johannes Kepler University of Linz, Austria, before continuing her studies in St Gallen.

As well as lecturing, Prof. Sander also manages an executive education program called Women Back to Business. The program targets female university graduates eager to re-enter the workforce and pursue their professional career after taking a break to start a family.

Hilde Schwab  
*Chairperson and Co-Founder Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship*

Hilde Schwab joined her husband Klaus Schwab when he created the World Economic Forum. In 1971, the couple organized the first Annual Meeting of the WEF. Hilde Schwab advised and was a project manager for numerous activities including in arts and culture. In 1998, she created, together with her husband, the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship and has been its Chairperson ever since.

Hilde Schwab is Member of the Board of Global Dignity and Member of the Advisory Board of International Bridges to Justice.
Kathleen Simon
President of the Federation of American Women’s Club’s Overseas

Kathleen Simon is President of the Federation of American Women’s Club’s Overseas (FAWCO) an organization with 15,000 members worldwide which actively serves women internationally. FAWCO is a global network of 74 clubs in 39 countries which acts as a voice for expats overseas.

Kathleen lives near Lausanne, Switzerland. Having married an Englishman, she settled in Stafford, England and in 1989 joined the North American Connection in Birmingham and immediately became an active volunteer with FAWCO. After a period as FAWCO Representative and Regional Coordinator for England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, in 2003 she became FAWCO 2nd Vice President for Member Clubs. In 2006 she took on the position of Chair of the Resolutions and Recommendations Committee (R&Rs). From 2007 to 2009, Kathleen held the position of 1st Vice President for Communications and became President in March 2009 for a two year term.

Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Kathleen has a BA in Sociology from Fordham University, a Masters in City Planning from Georgia Institute of Technology and a further diploma in Town Planning for Developing Countries from the University of London. She worked in Zambia in 1974 and then moved to Staffordshire where she worked as a Planning Officer for the Staffordshire County Council. While raising a family, Kathleen spent 14 years actively supporting her local hospice.

After 37 years in the UK, Kathleen and her husband moved to Lausanne in 2008. She has three children, three grandchildren and frequently attends opera and other musical events.
Cynthia Steele Vance
*Ambassador to the Global Women’s Institute, George Washington University*

Cynthia Steele Vance is Ambassador to the Global Women’s Institute at George Washington University. GWI’s mission is to connect all elements of GWU’s teaching, research, and service to enhancing the lives of women and girls worldwide. A key mission is to promote and advance equal access to Health, Education, Rights and Security for all women and girls around the world. Cynthia Steele Vance has been the co-host of the award winning show “My Generation” for 3 years. It is a lifestyle television magazine show that airs on 120 PBS stations nationwide. As a result, she won the highly acclaimed “Peer Award” which recognizes outstanding talent in Washington. The show has won The Communicator Award of Excellence and a Telly Award.

Cynthia Steele Vance is most well known in Washington as the preeminent daytime news anchor for Fox News. She anchored both the morning and noon news. While she was there the “Fox 5 Morning Show” became the number one morning newscast in Washington. She was also a reporter for Fox News covering Capitol Hill and important local issues around the Metro area. Cynthia Steele Vance began her television news career at CNN’s Washington Bureau, coordinating daily news coverage of Capitol Hill, the White House and breaking news. She worked as a news reporter in three television markets around the country, Knoxville, TN, Harrisburg, PA and Philadelphia, the fifth largest market in the country covering local and national news stories. Cynthia was nominated for two Emmy’s for spot news coverage, and won the prestigious Pennsylvania Associated Press Broadcast Award. Cynthia Steele Vance was also the host of BusinessNow, which was distributed by ABC NewsOne.

Cynthia Steele Vance is active in the Washington Community. She is a member of the George Washington University Board of Trustees, and she also serves on the Board of WETA-TV, the leading Public Broadcasting station in the nation’s Capitol.
Ambassador Heidi Tagliavini  
*Diplomat in Residence at the Geneva Center for Security Policy*

Heidi Tagliavini completed her studies in Geneva and Moscow with a PhD in Philology. She joined the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) in 1982 and worked as an intern in Bern and Lima. In 1984, she returned to Bern and worked as a diplomatic officer in the Political Secretariat dealing with Eastern Europe. In 1989, she was posted to the Swiss Embassy in Moscow, where she was appointed Councilor in 1992. In the same year, she was transferred to The Hague as Councilor and Deputy Head of Mission. In 1995, she was deployed as a member of the first OSCE Assistance Group in Chechnya. In mid-1996, she took up the post as Minister and Deputy Head of Mission of the Swiss Embassy in Moscow. From March 1998 on, she was Deputy (with the title of Ambassador) to the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations in Georgia (UNOMIG).

In 1999, the Federal Council appointed her Ambassador and Head of Political Affairs Division IV of the Political Directorate dealing with Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy, and in 2000, she was appointed Personal Representative of the Austrian Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE for missions in the Caucasus. From 2001 to 2002, she was Swiss Ambassador in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In May 2002, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, appointed Ambassador Tagliavini as his Special Representative. In this position, she headed the United Nations Observation Mission (UNOMIG) in Georgia from 2002 to 2006. In 2006, Ambassador Tagliavini returned to the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Political Director and Deputy State Secretary.

In 2008, Heidi Tagliavini was appointed by the Council of Ministers of the European Union as Head of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia. From 2009 to 2010, she was Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission for the 2010 Presidential election in Ukraine and currently she is the Diplomat in Residence at the Geneva Center for Security Policy in Geneva.
Dr. Ruth-Gaby Vermot-Mangold  
*Former Swiss National Councilor and Member of the Council of Europe, President of “PeaceWomen Across the Globe”*

Ruth-Gaby Vermot-Mangold holds a doctorate in ethnology and spent many years in Africa as a researcher and expert in development cooperation. She headed the Schulstelle 3. Welt (Global Education), in Switzerland and organized advanced training courses on development issues and peace politics for teachers and students.

At different Universities she lectured on politics of gender and development. Together with two partners she set up the Büro Hekate, a company offering courses for gender coaching, management training and organizational development.

From 1995 to 2007 Ruth-Gaby Vermot-Mangold was a member of the Swiss National Council and a member of the Council of Europe and reported on the problems of refugees and internally displaced persons in South Caucasus. Key aspects of her work still are migration and refugee policies compatible with the human rights, the fight against domestic violence and violence against children, trafficking in humans especially children, as well as organ trade.

Ruth-Gaby Vermot-Mangold is the President and initiator of the association “1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Price 2005” which now became “PeaceWomen Across the Globe”.

Dr. Milène Wegmann  
*Certified International Investment Analyst, CEO of Dr. Milène Wegmann & Partner Vermögensverwaltung AG*

Dr. Milène Wegmann was born in 1972. She is a graduate of the University of Bern with a doctorate for her thesis *Früher Neoliberalismus und Europäische Integration* (Publisher: Nomos) in 2001. This main work was accompanied by 13 publications specifically dealing with aspects of the liberal economic order.

Since 2001, Milène Wegmann worked as an asset manager in several Swiss banks. In 2004, she qualified as a Certified International Investment Analyst (CIIA). She has also been working as an expert for Swiss and international Investment Analyst exams since then. In 2008, Milène Wegmann became independent and founded the Dr. Milène Wegmann & Partner Vermögensverwaltung AG, an asset management firm specialized in value investing.
Catherine Weir  
*Managing Director, Head of Citi Global Family Office Group*

Catherine Weir is Managing Director, Head of Citi Global Family Office Group and Vice Chairman of Citi Institutional Client Group in EMEA. Catherine Weir is also Citi Country Officer (CCO) for Switzerland and Chairman of Citibank Switzerland and CCO for Monaco. Prior to this role, she was Chief Executive Officer of Citi Private Bank in EMEA, and previous to this, was Head of ASEAN, Citi Markets & Banking (CMB).

Catherine Weir began her career in international banking at Citi in 1988 when she joined the Capital Markets Group in London. In 1994, she was appointed Head of European Loan Syndication. In 1997, Catherine Weir moved to Hong Kong to become Regional Head of Citi’s Asia Pacific Corporate Finance team. In 1999, she was appointed as COO and Head of the Corporate Bank in the Philippines. Then, Catherine Weir was the COO for Hong Kong/Macau and later, she became the Head of Citi’s Markets & Banking business in Greater China.

Catherine Weir is an advisor to Hong Kong University of Science and Technology’s Business School and Nayang Technological University in Singapore. While in Singapore, she was a Council Member of the Institute of Banking & Finance, a Member of the Financial Services Committee of the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Board Member of the Singapore Art Museum. She holds a Master’s degree in Business Administration and is married with two children.
Suzi Weiss-Fischmann

Executive VP & Artistic Director of OPI Products

Suzi Weiss-Fischmann is the Executive VP & Artistic Director of OPI Products Inc., the world leader in professional nail care.

With her passion for color, fierce entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to philanthropy, Suzi Weiss-Fischmann, the daughter of Holocaust survivors, has been making a difference with bottles of nail polish for almost 20 years. Known in the industry as the First Lady of Nails, she maintains a hands-on approach in her family-owned, Los Angeles-based business, which has given millions of dollars to medical, educational and other charitable causes.

Suzi Weiss-Fischmann was born in Hungary and emigrated with her family to Israel at the age of 10. After two and a half years in Israel, her family relocated to New York. Suzi Weiss-Fischmann received a degree in biology from Hunter College, and forged a successful career in the garment industry before moving to Los Angeles, where she started working for a dental supply company. At that time, artificial nail extensions were surging in popularity and happened to derive from the same chemistry used to make dentures. She hired a chemist to make a product for nail technicians and it was a success; it was the beginning of OPI. Suzi Weiss-Fischmann has two children.

Saadia Zahidi

Director, Head of Constituents, World Economic Forum

Saadia Zahidi Head of Constituents at the World Economic Forum. In this role, she is responsible for engaging women leaders, gender parity groups, religious leaders, NGOs and labor leaders. She is also co-author of the Forum’s "Global Gender Gap Report", a benchmark in global research on the gap in parity between women and men.

Saadia Zahidi previously worked as an economist with the World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Program. She has a bachelor’s degree from Smith College and a master’s degree in international economics from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.
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