



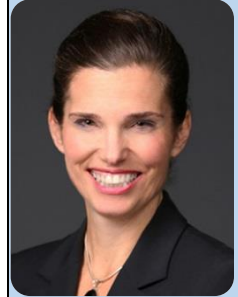
The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

CANADA—Canada

Minister of Science

Kirsty Duncan

The Honorable Kristy Duncan
[DUHN-kahn]



Biography

Kirsty Duncan was named Minister of Science in November 2015 by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. She has been the Member of Parliament for Etobicoke North (Ontario) since 2008.

Ms. Duncan was an Associate Professor of Health Studies at the University of Toronto and the former Research Director for the AIC Institute of Corporate Citizenship at the Rotman School of Management. A renowned international speaker, she has lectured for such organizations as the National Geographic Society, the Government of Japan, and the Young Presidents' Organization.

She sat on the Advisory Board for Pandemic Flu for the Conference Board of Canada, and the University of Toronto, and has helped organizations throughout Canada and the United States prepare for a possible flu pandemic. She also sat on the boards of the Indigenous Cooperative on the Environment, the Scottish Studies Foundation, the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto, and the Toronto Foundation for School Success. She co-chaired the 2006 Fraser Mustard Awards Gala in support of student nutrition and in October 2007, she chaired "Feeding Toronto's Hungry Students Week".

Ms. Duncan is passionate about helping build resilient communities and taking action on climate change. She has helped provide food, shelter and education to Toronto's youth, and served on the Nobel Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. She holds a doctorate in geography from the University of Edinburgh.

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. Christopher Ethier, Director of Operations and Issues Management

Dr. David Scott, President of Polar Knowledge Canada



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

CHINA—*People's Republic of China*

Minister Counselor, Science and Technology Section

Futao CHEN

Representative of Minister Wan Gang, Ministry of Science and Technology

Minister Counselor Chen

[ts^hən²]

Biography

Mr. Futao CHEN is currently Minister Counselor for Science & Technology at the Chinese Embassy in Washington D.C. He got a BS degree in solid state physics from Jilin University in 1985. Early in his professional career, he was Desk Officer and later Director for Asia and Africa, Director for America and Oceania at the Department of International Cooperation, State Science and Technology Commission of China. He then worked at Chinese Consulate General in San Francisco and Chinese Embassy in Sweden as Counselor for Science & Technology before he returned to China in 2004. Mr. Chen had served as Director General of China Science and Technology Exchange Center from 2005 to 2008. He later spent seven years from 2008 to 2015 in London as Minister Counselor for Science and Technology at the Chinese Embassy in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Mr. Chen is married with one son.

Additional Members of Delegation

Dr. Jinping ZHAO, Professor, Ocean University of China

Dr. Xiao CHENG, Professor, Beijing Normal University

Mr. Ping ZHONG, Interpreter





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

DENMARK—*Kingdom of Denmark*

Minister for Higher Education and Science

Ulla Pedersen Tørnæs

Minister Tørnæs
[Torness]

Biography

Born September 4th 1962 in Esbjerg, daughter of fishing-vessel master and former Minister Laurits Tørnæs and director Katty Tørnæs.

Parliamentary career

Member of Parliament for the Liberal Party September 21st 1994 - June 30th 2014

Member of the European Parliament May 25th 2014 – February 29th 2016

Minister for Higher Education and Science from February 29th 2016

Minister for Development Cooperation February 18th 2005 - February 23rd 2010

Minister of Education November 27th 2001 – February 18th 2005

Education

Studies at University of Copenhagen 1991

Copenhagen Business School 1985-1988

Studies at Chambéry University, France 1984-1985

Studies at Odense University 1982-1984

Affiliations

Member of the management committee of the Danish Liberal Democracy Program (DLDP) 2010-2016

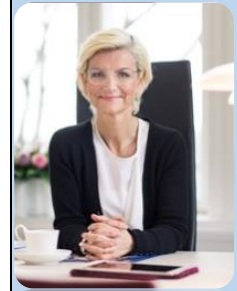
Member of the management committee of 'Plan Danmark' 2010-2013

Member of the central board of the Liberal Party 1998-2010, and again from 2014

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. Gitte Agerhus, Head of Division for Global Collaboration

Ms. Marianne Lynghøj Pedersen, Special Advisor to the Minister





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

FAROE ISLANDS—*Kingdom of Denmark*

Minister of Education, Research, and Culture

Rigmor Dam

Minister Dam
[dæm]

Biography

Parliamentary Career

Minister of Education, Research and Culture 2015 - present

Vice President of the Welfare Committee 2011-2015

Member of the Cultural Committee 2011-2015

Alternate Member of the Legal Affairs Committee 2011-2015

Member of Parliament 2011 - present

Occupation

Former primary school teacher, journalist, and information officer

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. Poul Geert Hansen, Permanent Secretary





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

FINLAND—*Republic of Finland*

Minister of Education and Culture

Sanni Kaisa Grahn-Laasonen

Minister Grahn-Laasonen
[Gran Laas-own-nen]



Biography

Personal Details

Minister of Education and Culture, 2015 to present
Master of Social Sciences, Member of Parliament
National Coalition Party
Date and place of birth: 4 May 1983, Forssa
Place of Residence: Forssa

Political Career

Minister of Education and Culture, 2015 to present
Minister of the Environment, 2014–2015
National Coalition Party, Vice Chair 2014 to present
Member of Parliament, 2011 to present
Forssa Town Council, Member, 2012 to present, 1st Vice Chair, 2012–2014
Regional Council of Häme, Assembly, Chair 2011–2014

Other Work Experience & Societal Responsibilities

Press Attaché to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, 2009–2011
Duty Editor, Iltalehti, 2009
Foreign Correspondent in Stockholm, Iltalehti, 2007–2008
Journalist, Iltalehti, 2004–2007
Social Insurance Institution of Finland, 2011–2014
National Advisory Board on Social Welfare and Health Care Ethics ETENE, 2011–2014
Development Policy Committee, Vice Chair 2012–2014
Advisory Committee on Mental Health Policy, 2012–2014
Kemijoki Oy, Supervisory Board, 2012–2014
Women's association Naiset Yhdessä ry, Board of Directors, 2011–2014
Forssa Church Council, 2010 to present
Finnish Hospital Clowns Association, Board of Directors, 2014
P. E. Svinhufvud Memorial Foundation, Supervisory Board, 2012–2014
Kansalliskustannus Oy, Board of Directors, 2011–2014

Other Work Experience & Societal Responsibilities

Spouse: Arttu Laasonen. One child
Language skills: Swedish and English

Additional Members of Delegation

Dr. Satu Kristiina Paasilehto, Senior Government Adviser
Mr. Paavo-Petri Ahonen, Counsellor of Education



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

FRANCE—*French Republic*

Deputy Director of the Minister of State for Higher Education and Research

Paul Indelicato

Mr. Indelicato
[ɪndelikaʁɔ]



Biography

Paul Indelicato, Deputy Director of the Office of Thierry Mandon, in charge of Research, Secretary of State for Research and Higher Education.

Director of Research, CNRS

Laboratoire Kastler-Brossel (CNRS, ENS-PSL, Collège de France, Sorbonne University—UPMC).

Member of the Extreme Matter Institute (Helmholtz Alliance, « Cosmic Matter in the Laboratory »)

Research: theoretical and experimental work in atomic physics and in medium energy particle physics. Measurement of the pion mass. QED in highly charged ions; Superheavy elements. X-ray metrology. Bound-state QED calculations. CREMA collab.: Laser measurement of the Lamb shift in muonic light atoms. GBAR collab.: measurement of gravitational effects on antihydrogen.

Previous responsibilities

Director of the Kastler Brossel laboratory (2006-2012)

Vice-President for Research and Innovation of Pierre and Marie Curie University (2012-2016)

Editor

European Journal of Physics (2004-2011), Hyperfine interactions (since 2008).

Awards and medals

Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur (January 1st, 2015)

Fellow of the American Physical Society (3 novembre 2003)

Award of the scientific Council, of the National Computer Center for Universities (2002)

Aimé Cotton award, French Physical Society (1994)

Bronze Medal, Centre National de La Recherche Scientifique—CNRS (1987)

Publications

Google scholar: <https://scholar.google.fr/citations?user=wYzoMZ4AAAAJ&hl=en> (h-index 46)

Researcher ID: <http://www.researcherid.com/rid/D-7636-2011> (h-index 39)

Additional Members of Delegation

Ms. Elisabeth Verges, Director of Strategy at the Ministry of Research and Higher Education

Mr. Laurent Mayet, Deputy Ambassador for the Arctic



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

GERMANY—*Federal Republic of Germany*

State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Georg Schütte

Dr. Schütte
[SHOO-tah]

Biography

Georg Schütte has been State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) since December 2009.

Prior to this, he had been Secretary General of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Bonn since 2004, an organization which helps foreign scientists and scholars to spend research periods in Germany.

From 2001 to 2003, he worked as Executive Director of the German-American Fulbright Commission in Berlin and in this capacity was able to contribute to academic exchange and a better understanding between Germany and the United States. During this period, he was also a member of the EU Commission's expert group on 'Benchmarking Human Resources.' From 1998 to 2001, Georg Schütte was Head of the Strategy Department at the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. After a period of working as a research assistant at the Foundation, he joined the junior academic staff at the University of Siegen and had teaching assignments at various universities including the universities of Lüneburg, Mannheim and Dortmund between 1995 and 1998.

Georg Schütte was a fellow of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes and a grantee of the German-American Fulbright Commission. Between 1984 and 1989, he studied journalism at the University of Dortmund and 'Television and Radio' at the City University of New York. He subsequently worked on his doctoral thesis at the Collaborative Research Centre "Screen Media" of Siegen University until 1994 and was a Visiting Fellow at Harvard University in 1992.

Georg Schütte is Chairman of the Founding Supervisory Board of the Berlin Institute of Health, of the Supervisory Board of the GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research and of the Council of the Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research in Europe, of the Supervisory Board of the 'Germany Trade & Invest' foreign trade and inward investment agency, of the Board of Trustees of the Volkswagen Foundation, of the Board of Trustees of the German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU), of the Board of the Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max Planck Institute for Art History in Rome, of the Council of the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik and of the Board of the German Fulbright Alumni Association. From 2008 to the end of 2009, he was a member of the university councils in Bonn and Siegen (chairperson in Siegen in 2009).

Georg Schütte was born in Rheine on 26 October 1962. He is married and has two children.

Additional Members of Delegation

Prof. Karin Lochte, Director of Alfred-Wegener-Institut

Mr. Wilfried Kraus, Ministerialdirigent





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

GREENLAND—*Greenland*

Minister of Education, Research, Culture, and Church

Nivi Olsen

Minister Olsen
[Ol-sen]



Biography

Education

2001-2004: Avannaani Ilinniarnertuunngorniarfik (secondary education)
2005-2008: University of Greenland, Ilisimatusarfik; Administration (Ba.scient.adm.)
2009- 2012: University of Greenland, Ilisimatusarfik: Candidate in Social Sciences

Professional Career

Temporary in elementary school
Youtj home Aja
Tourist Guide for Ilulissat Turist service
Receptionist in Hotel Arctic
Supervisor in Hotel Arctic
Employee at public administration of dormitories, KAF, as a representative

Training

Personal Secretary at the Ministry of Finance and Foreign Affairs
Head of Section at Ministry of Finance
Secretary to Management/Consultant at the municipality Qaasuitsup Kommunia
Business consultant at the municipality Qaasuitsup Kommunia
Mineral Resources coordinator at the municipality Qaasuitsup Kommunia
Teacher at the business college in Nuuk

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. Mikael Hannibal Kristensen, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and the Church



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

ICELAND—*Republic of Iceland*

Minister of Education, Science and Culture

Illugi Gunnarsson

Minister Gunnarsson
[kʏn:arʂɔn]



Biography

Illugi Gunnarsson became a Minister of Education, Science and Culture on 23 May 2013.

Illugi Gunnarsson was born on 26 August 1967. He is married to Brynhildur Einarisdóttir, historian, and they have one daughter.

He graduated from Menntaskólinn í Reykjavík (Reykjavik Upper Secondary School) in 1987 and from University of Iceland with a BS in Economics in 1995 and MBA from London Business School in 2000.

Mr. Gunnarsson has an extensive work experience and his career includes among other things teaching in a primary school, organist at Flateyri Church, and managing post in a fishing industry in the Westfjords. He was a researcher at the University of Iceland for two years before he became a political assistant to the former Prime Minister Mr. Davið Oddsson in 2000 to 2005.

Parliamentary Career

Member of Althingi for the Independence Party for the Reykjavík South Constituency 2007-2009 and for the Reykjavík North Constituency since 2009.

Party Group

Chairman of the parliamentary group of the Independence Party 2012-2013 and 2009-2012.

Earlier committees

Member of the General Affairs Committee 2010-2011.

Member of the Budget Committee 2007-2009, 2011-2012.

Member of the Environment Committee 2007-2009.

Member of the Education Committee 2007-2009.

Member of the Economy and Taxation Committee 2007.

Member of the Icelandic delegation to the Nordic Council 2009-2010, 2011-2013.

Member of the Icelandic Delegation to the EFTA and EEA Parliamentary Committees 2007-2009.

Additional Members of Delegation

Ms. Ásta Magnúsdóttir, Permanent Secretary

Ms. Hellen Magnea Gunnarsdóttir, Director



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

INDIA—*Republic of India*

Hon'ble Union Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences

Harsh Vardhan

Minister Vardhan
[v uh r dh uh n]



Biography

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, at present Minister of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Government of India, was a practicing ENT surgeon before entering public life in 1993. He was elected to the Delhi Assembly that year from Krishna Nagar constituency in east Delhi and went on to retain that seat in all five elections in 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013. In 2014, he contested the Parliament election for the first time and was elected to the Lower House (Lok Sabha) from Chandni Chowk, Delhi.

As Health Minister in the Narendra Modi government for five months, he initiated many reforms in the public health system of the country. He took over as Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences in November 2014 with the confidence of the Prime Minister who earlier held this portfolio. He is committed to set a roadmap for the implementation of the “Make in India” programme by building a robust R&D infrastructure and promoting synergies between industry and scientific research institutions.

Dr Harsh Vardhan was born in December 1954. He decided to be a doctor and attended GSVM Medical College in Kanpur from where he obtained his MBBS and MS with specialisation in ENT. He held various posts in the Delhi Medical Association.

Dr Harsh Vardhan had pioneered the Pulse Polio programme in India. In 1994, on a single day (October 2, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi), he organised the mass immunisation of 1.2 million children. No immunisation program in India before that had involved the marshalling of such awesome logistics. Interestingly, the entire program was also supported by school children who acted as “Polio Sena and Polio Sainiks”. On 13th January 2012 India completed one full year without a case of polio being reported. In December 2004, Dr Harsh Vardhan came out with his own account on how he conceived and implemented the Pulse Polio program. The book, titled - A Tale of Two Drops (English)/ Kahani Do Boondo ki (Hindi), was released.

Dr Harsh Vardhan moved next to control tobacco consumption. As an ENT specialist, he was regularly confronting cases of laryngeal, oral and lung cancers – all attributable to tobacco use. In 1997, under his bold leadership, the Delhi Prohibition of Smoking and Non-Smokers Health Protection Act was passed.

A major pioneering initiative of Dr Harsh Vardhan was his act of implementing WHO's Essential Drug Programme, which revolutionised governments' attitudes on public health care. His missionary zeal touched other areas of health care as well. Under him, Delhi's Maulana Azad Medical College got the country's first ever Department for Occupational and Environmental Health. He launched the Matri Suraksha Programme to ensure proper mother and childcare for Delhi's middle and lower income groups. The Cancer Control Program, the Cataract Free Delhi Program and the Shraavan Shakti Abhiyan for the rehabilitation of the elderly and the hearing impaired, were begun under his leadership. As Minister in Delhi Govt., he launched the Healthy



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

City Project, the Hepatitis B Immunisation Program and a Delhi Research Centre for Modernised Promotion of Ayurveda. Two other significant pieces of legislation that bear his stamp are the Delhi Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Act and Delhi Artificial Insemination Act.

Dr Harsh Vardhan has presented research papers at several national and international scientific conferences. He has also contributed to the world's leading medical journals.

Dr Harsh Vardhan was conferred the Paul Harris Fellowship by Rotary International twice. The International Institute of Polypathy based in Milan, Italy, nominated him as a Fellow in 1996. In 1995, the then President of Lions International, Mr C. Pino Grimaldi, awarded him the Lions International Service Award. In 1994, he received the "IMA President's Special Award of Appreciation" and was given the "IMA Special Award to Eminent Medical Men for Distinguished Achievement of Highest Order" for two successive years – 1995 and 1996. On "Doctor's Day", July 1, 2002, he was named "Doctor of the last Decade" (Swasthya Ratna) by the New Delhi branch of the Indian Medical Association for being the "noblest medical campaigner of the last decade".

He also served the South-East Asia office of World Health Organisation (WHO) as an Advisor. Dr Harsh Vardhan is a member of several prestigious organisations in not only the medical field, but also culture, diplomacy and related areas. He is a life member of the International Medical Parliamentarians Organisation, the Antar Rashtriya Sahyog Parishad, the Council for International Affairs and Human Rights, the Panchnad Research Institute, the IMA Academy of Medical Specialties, the Association of Otolaryngologists of India, the All India Rhinology Society, the Gems Association and the Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs. He is also one of the founders of Green Forum, the country's first multi-party platform of leaders interested in environment protection.

As President of the Delhi Pradesh unit of the Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP), a position that he enjoyed four times. Earlier, he had also held the post of Vice-President of the party's national unit. In late 2003, he was nominated President of the Delhi unit of the BJP.

Married to Nutan, a specialist in hospital administration who preferred to be a homemaker. Dr Harsh Vardhan has two sons and a daughter.

(More details on Dr Harsh Vardhan's policies and programmes are available on his web site, www.drharshvardhan.com)

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. Muthalagu Ravichandran, Director

Mr. Devendra Nath Singh, Private Secretary



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

ITALY—*Italian Republic*

Minister of Education, Universities, and Research

Stefania Giannini

Minister Giannini
[jee-uh-NEEN-ee]

Biography

Elected member of the Senate in February 2013 where she served in the Education and Culture Committee, Stefania Giannini has been the Italian Minister of Education, Universities and Research since February 2014.

From 2004 to 2014, she was Rector of the University for Foreigners of Perugia, and served as a government expert in national and international committees in the fields of education and cultural promotion.

From 2006 to 2011, she was the representative for international relations of the Conference of Rectors of Italian Universities. Prior to taking up her functions as Minister, Prof. Giannini was also a member of the National Commission for the Promotion of Italian Culture Abroad, President of the Study Commission for Research Ethics and Bioethics of the Italian National Research Council, member of the Steering Committee for scientific and cultural relations between Italy and France, and President of the Central European Initiative Parliamentary Delegation.

Stefania Giannini studied at the Universities of Pisa and Pavia, and became Full Professor of Glottology and Linguistics in 1999.

Additional Members of Delegation

Dr. Massimo Inguscio, President of the Italian National Research Council (CNR)

Dr. Gianluigi Benedetti, Diplomatic Adviser to the Minister





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

JAPAN—*Japan*

State Minister of Cabinet Office

Yohei Matsumoto

Mr. Matsumoto
[mat-sum-ó-to]

Biography

Education

1996 Graduated from Keio University, Faculty of Economics

Career

Aug. 2016: State Minister of Cabinet Office

(The Second Reshuffled Third Abe Cabinet)

Oct. 2015: Deputy Secretary-General, Liberal Democratic Party

Dec. 2014: Member of the House of Representative (3rd)

Sep. 2014: Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Cabinet Office

Oct. 2013: Director-General, Youth Division

Liberal Democratic Party

Dec. 2012: Member of the House of Representatives (2nd)

Sept. 2005: Member of the House of Representatives (1st)

Apr. 1996: Member, the Sanwa Bank, Limited

(current the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ Limited)

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. Toshihiko Horiuchi, Counsellor, Secretariat of the Headquarters for Ocean Policy, Cabinet Secretariat

Dr. Hiroyuki Enomoto, Vice Director-General, The National Institute of Polar Research

Mr. William Fine, Interpreter





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

NETHERLANDS—*Kingdom of the Netherlands*

State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science

Sander Dekker

Mr. Dekker
[Deck-er]



Biography

Sander Dekker was born in The Hague in 1975, the oldest of three children. After finishing school, he went on to study Public Administration at Leiden University. Here he also obtained a Certificate of Higher Education in Dutch law and was president of one of the biggest student associations in Leiden.

After graduating in 1999, Sander Dekker stayed on at the university as a researcher and lecturer in public administration. In 2001, he was appointed visiting researcher at the Centre for European Politics, Economics and Society at Oxford University.

His political career began in 2003, when he was elected to the municipal council in The Hague representing the VVD, the Dutch conservative liberal political party. In 2006, he became deputy mayor of Education, Youth and Sport. He fostered policies aimed at reducing language problems, the number of school dropouts and youth unemployment. With success: during his period of office, the percentage of school dropouts in The Hague was reduced to the lowest of all the main Dutch cities, and the number of children receiving extra language tuition increased.

In 2010, he was deputy mayor of Finance and City Management, until he moved into national politics in 2012. As State Secretary, he is responsible for primary and secondary education. Compared with other countries, the quality of that education is good, but despite heavy investments and radical reforms, the level has remained the same over the past 20 years. Dekker now wants Dutch education to take a big leap forward. To achieve this, he plans to improve the quality of teaching staff, give ambitious schools more scope to distinguish themselves and challenge students to raise the bar higher. This particularly applies to gifted students, who tend to fare less well in the Netherlands than abroad. He also initiated a wide ranging consultation to review the Dutch curriculum.

Additional Members of Delegation

Dr. Joseph Theresia Maria Rokx, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

Dr. Dick Anthonius van der Kroef, Acting Director, Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, Earth and Life Sciences



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

NEW ZEALAND—*New Zealand*

Chair of the New Zealand Antarctic Research Institute (NZARI)

Rob Fenwick

Sir Rob Fenwick
[FEN-NIK]



Biography

Sir Rob Fenwick is the first New Zealander to be knighted for services to both business and conservation. He has a long association with Antarctica. He is Chairman of New Zealand Antarctic Research Institute which he founded in 2011. Prior, he was seven years Chairman of Antarctica NZ, the New Zealand Government agency responsible for supporting science on the continent and from 1999 - 2007 he led a global campaign to restore the historic huts built by Earnest Shackleton and Robert Flacon Scott on Ross Island a century ago. In 2005 the New Zealand Geographic Society named the Fenwick Ice Piedmont in the Ross Sea for his work in Antarctica. He has participated in sailing expeditions in both the Arctic and the Southern Oceans.

Sir Rob is a director of Te Papa Tongarewa (New Zealand's national museum) and a director of two National Science Challenges focussed on climate change and sustainable oceans. He was knighted KNZM in 2016; inducted to NZ Business Hall of Fame and New Zealander of the Year finalist in 2015 and knighted KStJ in 2007. He has an Honorary Doctorate in Natural Resources from Lincoln University (NZ).

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. David Gaston, Second Secretary, New Zealand Embassy, Washington



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

NORWAY—*Kingdom of Norway*

Minister of Education and Research

Torbjørn Røe Isaksen

Minister Isaksen

[I s ø k s e n]

Biography

As Minister of Education and Research, Torbjørn Røe Isaksen (Conservative Party) is responsible for implementing the government's policies on the primary, secondary, tertiary vocational and higher education sectors, as well as on kindergartens, cultural schools, vocational education and training and adult learning. He is also responsible for government policy on research.

Education

Master Degree: Political Science, University of Oslo (UiO)

Cand. Mag Degree: History of Ideas and Media Studies (UiO)

Experience

Member of Parliament (Stortinget) representing the county Telemark and the Conservative Party from 2009

Member of the working committee for the Conservative Party from 2010

Journalist in the local newspapers Varden and Porsgrunns Dagblad

Project work for think tank Civita 2008-2009

Editor, Journal Minerva 2008-2009

Aid Political Secretary

Additional Members of Delegation

Ms. Anniken Ramberg Krutnes, SAO / Polar Ambassador

Mr. Pål Sørgaard, Deputy Director General Ministry of Education and Research





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

POLAND—*Republic of Poland*

Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Science and Higher Education

Teresa Czerwińska

Professor Czerwińska
[Cher-VIN-ska]



Biography

Teresa Czerwińska, PhD, was born on 7 September 1974. She graduated from the Faculty of Social Sciences (in 1997) and the Faculty of Management (1998) at the University of Gdańsk. In 2010, she was promoted to the assistant professor of economics (doktor habilitowany nauk ekonomicznych). Her areas of expertise in business practice and research interests span across financial management and risk assessments for business entities. Teresa Czerwińska is an author and co-author of many scientific publications in the field of financial management, investment, insurance and risk assessments for financial institutions.

She was elected a secretary of the Committee on Financial Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences for the third term of office (2015-2018). She is actively involved in capital market research and promotes financial management trend in accordance with the concept of corporate social responsibility. In 2014, Teresa Czerwińska was appointed by the Minister of Economy a Member of Corporate Social Responsibility Team.

In the years 2010-2011 she was employed as an associate professor at the Faculty of Management at the University of Gdańsk. From 2011 to this day, she has been employed as an associate professor in the Department of Financial Systems of the Economy at the Faculty of Management of the University of Warsaw.

Teresa Czerwińska is married and has one daughter. She is a theatre-goer and classical music lover.

Additional Members of Delegation

Professor Jacek Adam Jania, Professor, Head of Centre for Polar Studies & Chair of Committee for Polar Research at Polish Academy of Science

Dr. Michał Łuszczuk, Ph.D. habil. Scientific Secretary of Committee for Polar Research at Polish Academy of Science



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

REPUBLIC OF KOREA—*Republic of Korea*

President of Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI)

Ho-Il Yoon

Dr. Yoon
[yuh-ō-ō-nuh]

Biography

Dr. Ho-Il Yoon is the President of Korea Polar Research Institute. Dr. Yoon is a paleoceanographer by training, having earned his Ph.D in marine geology at Inha University. He has been participating in the Korea Polar Research Program since 1988, its earliest beginnings, and have been working for the program all the way since then. Dr. Yoon has also served in multiple executive as well as academic positions. Since 2004, he has been teaching graduate students at the University of Science and Technology as Professor. For a number years, he served as Committee member of SCAR (Scientific Committee of Antarctic Research). He also wintered twice at the King Sejong Station in Antarctica.

Additional Members of Delegation

Dr. Hyoung Chul Shin, Head, Dept. of International Cooperation, Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI)

Mr. Hyun Soo Choi, Deputy Director, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) Polar Policy Team





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

RUSSIA—*Russian Federation*

Deputy Minister of Education and Science

Aleksey Lopatin

Deputy Minister Lopatin
[Lo-pat'-in]



Biography

In 1993, graduated from Geological Department of Lomonosov Moscow State University.

Doctor of Biology; Corresponding Member, Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS); editorial board member, "Journal of Paleontology" (since 2005); deputy chairman, the RAS Museum Council (since 2007); member of the RAS A.N.Severtsov prize award commission (2005-2014); member of the RAS Scientific Council on paleobiology and evolution of the organic world; editorial board member, "Russian Journal of Theriology" (since 2009).

1997 – Candidate of Geological and Mineralogical Sciences, thesis: "Small mammals of the lower Miocene in Western Kazakhstan".

2006 – Doctor of Biology, thesis: "Early Paleogene insectivore mammals of Asia and establishment of the major groups of Insectivora".

In 2011, elected Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences specializing in "General Biology".

Member of dissertation council of the Geological Institute of RAS (since 2012).

In 2014 he became the winner of the A.N.Severtsov prize for a collection of works titled «The early stages of evolution and phylogeny of mammals». Member of the Scientific Coordinating Council of the Russian Federal agency for scientific organizations (FANO).

Since 2015 – member of the expert commission on the M.V.Lomonosov Grand Gold Medal of the RAS; member of the RAS Presidium Commission on structure improvement of scientific organizations under the jurisdiction of the Federal agency on scientific organizations; member of the RAS Scientific Publishing Council.

In 2010-2016, Head of the Department of Biological Sciences of the RAS – Deputy Academician-Secretary of the Department of Biological Sciences of the RAS on scientific-organizational work.

Deputy head of the Federal Agency of Scientific Organizations of Russia (FANO) since 2015 until August 2016 before his appointment as Deputy Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

He is actively engaged in scientific-organizational work. Dr.Lopatin has more than 190 scientific publications, including:

Two personal monographs [Early Miocene small mammals from the North Aral Region (Kazakhstan) // Paleontological Journal, 2004; Early Paleogene insectivore mammals of Asia and establishment of the major groups of Insectivora // Paleontological Journal. 2006.];

Six monographs in co-authorship and over 140 articles in "Science", "Naturwissenschaften", "Journal of Paleontology", "Zoological magazine", "Lectures of the Academy of Sciences",



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"Herald of the Russian Academy of Sciences", "Stratigraphy. Geological Correlation", "Newsletter of Moscow Society of Naturalists", "Acta Palaeontologica Polonica", "Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology", "Cretaceous Research", "Journal of Mammalian Evolution", "Geobios", "Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des sciences naturelles de Belgique", "New Mexico Museum Natural History and Sciences Bulletin", "Russian Journal of Theriology", as well as in The Grand Russian Encyclopedia and etc. 40 scientific and journalistic, popular science and commemorative articles.

Additional Members of Delegation

Dr. Alexander Frolov, Head of Roshydromet

Dr. Nikolay Toivonen, Director for International Cooperation, Ministry of Education and Science



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

SINGAPORE—*Republic of Singapore*

Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Manpower

Sam Tan

Minister Tan

[ta:n]

Biography

Mr. Tan began his career at the People's Association in 1983 and undertook various leadership positions. From 1992, he was Deputy Executive Director of the Chinese Development Assistance Council (CDAC) and became its Executive Director (ED) in 1997. He received the Public Service Medal (PBM) in 2002. He served as ED of CDAC from 1997 to 2009 and CEO of Business China from 2007 to 2009. He is currently a Board Member of both CDAC and Business China. In 2006, Mr. Tan was elected member of Parliament and subsequently appointed Parliamentary Secretary for Trade and Industry, and Information, Communications, and the Arts in July 2009. In November 2010 he was promoted to Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Ministry of Community, Youth and Sports (May 2011-October 2012), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (May 2011-April 2014), Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (Nov. 2012-April 2014). He served as Mayor of Central Singapore District from 2012 to 2014. In May 2014, Mr. Tan served as Minister of State for Prime Minister's Office, and Culture, Community and Youth (May 2014-Sept. 2015). Mr. Tan is currently Minister of State for the Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Manpower. Mr. Tan graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) from the National University of Singapore in 1983.

Additional Members of Delegation

Dr. Eng Soon Chan, Vice-Provost (Special Duties), National University of Singapore

Mr. Sherwin Loh, Country Officer (Europe), Ministry of Foreign Affairs





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

SPAIN—*Kingdom of Spain*

Secretary of State for Research, Development, and Innovation, Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness

Carmen Vela Olmo

Ms. Vela
[VAY-lah]

Biography

Carmen Vela is the Spanish State Secretary for Research, Development and Innovation under the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness. Since January 2012 her major competences have been to lead the Spanish science and innovation policy out of the economic crisis and place S&T in the heart of the government concerns. Her achievements at the Department of State have been the coordination and launch of the Spanish Strategy of Science, Technology and Innovation (2013-2020) and its renovated funding instrument: The National Plan of Scientific and Technological Research and Innovation. Since 2012, Spain has kept its global position in scientific excellence, scientific international collaboration and is trying to recover from lagging behind in private contributions and innovation indicators, a direct consequence of the hard crisis. As Secretary of State her department is undergoing improvements opening up to international peer reviews, being at the forefront of other European countries with similar characteristics and embracing international standards, criteria and openness for enhancing efficiency in policy making.

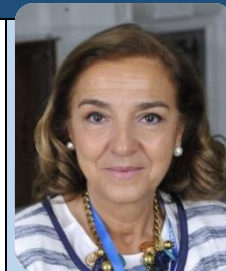
Before her position in the government, Carmen Vela was involved as a scientist and entrepreneur in the S&T private sector in Spain, being CEO of INGENASA, a biotechnology company that researches on animal health and food security. INGENASA has activity in 56 countries worldwide in Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. As a scientist in biochemistry, immunology, virology and other related fields she has published in internationally recognized magazines and has issued 12 patents in Europe, USA, Canada, and Australia.

Carmen Vela has been involved in several international S&T policy advisory activities, such as advisor of ECLAIR – Agro-industrial Research Programme of the European Commission, evaluator of the Framework Programmes, member of the Advisory Committees on Mobility (FP6) and People (FP7), member of the Jury of the European Patent Award, member of the ESTA (European Science and Technology Assembly), member of the External Advisory Committee of EUREKA, member of the Executive Board of the European Federation of Biotechnology, and of the Association of Scientist and Technologist Women, among others. She is a member of the Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and has been the President of the Spanish Society for Biotechnology.

Additional Members of Delegation

Ms. Marina Pilat Villegas, Director, State Agency for Research

Ms. Maria Teresa Diez, Advisor to the State Secretary





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

SWEDEN—*Kingdom of Sweden*

Minister for Higher Education and Research

Helene Hellmark Knutsson

Her Excellency Knutsson
[Kah-noot-suhn]

Biography

Swedish Minister for Higher Education and Research since October 2014. She represents the Social Democratic Party. Her political areas are Higher Education and Research.

She is a member of the Board of the Social Democratic Party since 2013. During 2010-2014 she was County Council Commissioner at Stockholm County Council. 2001-2010 she was a member of the City Council and Councillor in Sundbyberg. Prior to that she had various positions at the Swedish Trade Union Confederation.

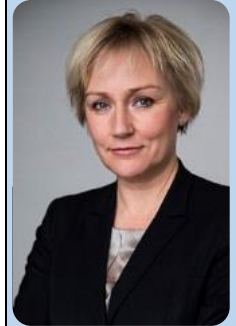
Born in Solna in 1969. Helene Hellmark Knutsson has studied History, National Economy and Statistics at Stockholm University.

Helene Hellmark Knutsson is married and has two children.

Additional Members of Delegation

Mr. Anders Paul Fredrik Lönn, Political Advisor

Mr. Mats Sten-Aake Johnsson, Senior Advisor





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

SWITZERLAND—*Swiss Confederation*

Ambassador of Switzerland to the United States

Martin Dahinden

Professor Dr. Dahinden
[DAHEENDEN]

Biography

Martin Dahinden has been appointed as Ambassador of Switzerland to the United States of America.

Prior to that, he served as Director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) from 2008 to 2014 and headed the Directorate of Corporate Management of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) from 2004 to 2008.

During his long career in the Swiss diplomatic service, Martin Dahinden has served as Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, as a member of the Swiss Delegation to GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade), at the Embassy of Switzerland in Paris, as Deputy to the Swiss Ambassador in Nigeria, and in a temporary posting at the Swiss Mission to the UN in New York. In addition, he worked in the FDFA's Service for Disarmament Policy and Nuclear Issues, as Head of the OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) Service of the Directorate of Political Affairs, and held the position of Deputy Head of the OSCE Coordination Unit during the Swiss Chairmanship of the OSCE in 1996. The following year, he was sent abroad as Deputy Head of the Swiss Mission to NATO in Brussels.

Martin Dahinden was born in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1955. He earned a Ph.D. in Economics (Business Administration) from the University of Zurich. Before joining the diplomatic service, he worked as a postgraduate assistant at the university, and was then employed by a bank and a publishing house. Ambassador Dahinden is married to Anita Dahinden and they have two children, Robert and Andrea.

Additional Members of Delegation

Prof. Dr. Konrad Steffen, Professor

Ms. Charlotte Bleisch, First Secretary, Swiss Embassy Washington





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

UNITED KINGDOM—*United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research, and Innovation

Jo Johnson

Minister Johnson
[JAHN-suhn]



Biography

Jo Johnson was appointed Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation in July 2016. He was elected the Member of Parliament for Orpington in May 2010 and re-elected in May 2015.

Education

Jo began his schooling in Brussels, at the European School in Uccle, before attending Ashdown House School in East Sussex, and then Eton College. In 1991, he went to Balliol College, Oxford to study Modern History.

A French speaker, Jo did his postgraduate studies in Europe and has degrees from two further European universities.

Political career

He was head of the Downing Street Policy Unit and served as Minister of State at the Cabinet Office from July 2014 until May 2015. He served as an Assistant Government Whip from September 2012 until July 2014. He also served as Parliamentary Secretary at the Cabinet Office from April 2013 until July 2014.

Career outside politics

Jo joined the Financial Times in 1997, after working as an investment banker at Deutsche Bank. He had two foreign postings with them: firstly as Paris correspondent (2001 to 2005), and then as South Asia Bureau Chief based in New Delhi (2005 to 2008). In 2008 he became an Associate Editor of the Financial Times and Head of the Lex Column.

Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation

The minister is responsible for:

- universities and higher education reform (including the Higher Education Bill and teaching excellence framework and quality)
- higher education student finance (including the Student Loans Company)
- widening participation and social mobility
- all education exports (including international students, international research)
- science and research
 - life sciences
 - agri-tech industrial strategy
 - space
 - innovation



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

Additional Members of Delegation	
Ms. Claire Durkin, Head of Global Science Innovation and Knowledge Economy, Department for Business, Energy & Industry Strategy	
Dr. Julian Dowdeswell, Director, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge	



The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

UNITED STATES—*United States of America*

Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy

John P. Holdren

Dr. Holdren
[hol' dren]

Biography

Dr. John P. Holdren is Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and Co-Chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). Prior to joining the Obama administration Dr. Holdren was Teresa and John Heinz Professor of Environmental Policy and Director of the Program on Science, Technology, and Public Policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, as well as professor in Harvard's Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences and Director of the independent, nonprofit Woods Hole Research Center. Previously he was on the faculty of the University of California, Berkeley, where he co-founded in 1973 and co-led until 1996 the interdisciplinary graduate-degree program in energy and resources. During the Clinton administration Dr. Holdren served as a member of PCAST through both terms and in that capacity chaired studies requested by President Clinton on preventing theft of nuclear materials, disposition of surplus weapon plutonium, the prospects of fusion energy, U.S. energy R&D strategy, and international cooperation on energy-technology innovation.

Dr. Holdren holds advanced degrees in aerospace engineering and theoretical plasma physics from MIT and Stanford. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, as well as a foreign member of the Royal Society of London and former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He served as a member of the MacArthur Foundation's Board of Trustees from 1991 to 2005, as Chair of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on International Security and Arms Control from 1994 to 2005, and as Co-Chair of the independent, bipartisan National Commission on Energy Policy from 2002 to 2009. His awards include a MacArthur Foundation Prize Fellowship, the John Heinz Prize in Public Policy, the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, and the Volvo Environment Prize. In December 1995 he gave the acceptance lecture for the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, an international organization of scientists and public figures in which he held leadership positions from 1982 to 1997.

Additional Members of Delegation

The Honorable Francis Ulmer, Chair of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission and former Lieutenant Governor of Alaska

Dr. France Córdova, Director, National Science Foundation





The White House Arctic Science Ministerial *Representatives*

EUROPEAN COMMISSION—*European Union*

Deputy Director General

Ruxandra Draghia-Akli

Dr. Draghia-Akli
[drægiæ-ækli]

Biography

Nationality

Romanian

Academic Qualification

1991 - 1995: PhD, Human Genetics – Romanian Academy of Medical Science, University Carol Davilla, Bucharest, Romania

1983 – 1989: MD diploma: Late-stage complications after myocardium infarction, University Carol Davilla, Bucharest, Romania

1979 – 1983: Bacalaureate Mathematics & Physics, I.L. Caragiale Lycée, Bucharest, Romania

Professional Experience in European Institutions

As from September 2016: Deputy Director-General – Directorate-General "Research and Innovation" (RTD)

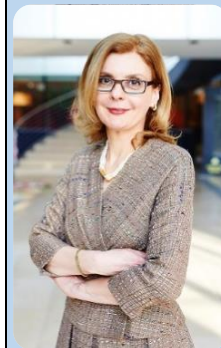
03/2009 – 08/2016: Director "Health" DG RTD. Main responsibilities among others: Provide overall strategic orientation and management of the Directorate Health Research; Initiate or provide support for legislative, regulatory and policy issues in the area of health research and innovation, including intellectual property; Establish in consultation with a large number of stakeholders research priorities for the Health Research program of the EC; Represent the EC in European and international meetings under the area of expertise, including in negotiations with governments, non-governmental organizations, patient organization, etc. as well as work on novel financial instruments in collaboration with colleagues in DG RTD and the European Investment Bank.

Professional Experience Before Joining the European Institutions

2007 – 03/2009: Vice-President of Research – VGX Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The Woodlands, Texas and Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, USA. Main responsibilities: Direct and manage the research program of a newly developed biotechnology and pharmaceutical company and its research group.

2002 – 2007: Vice-President of Research, CO-Scientific Founder – ADViSYS, Inc., The Woodlands, Texas, USA. Main responsibilities: Direct and manage the research program of the company and research group, in the area of gene therapy and DNA vaccination for human and animal health. Intellectual property scientific overview; Ad-hoc reviewer for national and international granting agencies and scientific journals, such as Endocrinology, Molecular Therapy, Gene Therapy, Vaccine, etc.

Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA
2002 – 2009: Adjunct Professor; 1998 – 2002: Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology, Centre for Cell and Gene Therapy; 1995 – 1998: Post-Doctoral fellow and Instructor.





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1993 – 1995: Doctoral fellow – Researcher – Hôpital Cochin Port-Royal, Université René Descartes, Paris V, "Vaincre les maladies lysosomales" association, Paris, France.

1989 – 1993: Medical Doctor and University Lecturer – University Carol Davilla, Bucharest, Romania.

Language Skills

Romanian (mother tongue)

English, French (proficient)

Italian, Spanish and Russian (basic reading and understanding)

Additional Members of Delegation

Ms. Caroline Vicini, Minister (Deputy Head of EU Delegation to the USA)

Dr. Andrea Tilche, Head of Climate Action and Earth Observation Unit, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission