

Resume of Kurt Vandenberghe

Kurt Vandenberghe is Director for Climate action and Resource Efficiency at the European Commission's DG Research and Innovation since July 2013.

He previously worked as head of the cabinet of European Commissioner Janez Potočnik, first in charge of science and research (2008-2009) and subsequently in charge of environment policy (from 2010).

Kurt was deputy head of Janez Potočnik's cabinet between 2004 and 2008, where he was in charge of coordinating the research area and the research framework programmes. Between 1999 and 2004, he was a member of the cabinet of European Research Commissioner Philippe Busquin, where he was in charge of life sciences, biotechnology, public health, space policy, transport, science and society issues, ethical questions and press and communication.

Kurt joined the European Commission in 1996 as co-ordinator of the Commission's Intermodal Transport Task Force and of the Transport Research Programme. He subsequently was co-ordinator of DG Transport's relations with the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions.

Before entering the Commission, Kurt worked for 4 years as a manager at Ernst & Young Association Management, where he set up, managed and represented international trade associations. Assignments included FreightForward Europe, a lobby group of the world's nine largest freight forwarding companies, and the US automotive components industry.

After reading French and Italian literature at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL) and obtaining a degree in Public and International Affairs at the University Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve (UCL), Kurt gained a Master of Arts degree in International Relations at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (S.A.I.S.) in Bologna, Italy and Washington D.C., US.

Kurt is co-founder and board member of Journalismfund.eu and the VZW Scriptieprijs.

He is married and has three children.