



Genoveva RUIZ CALAVERA

Mrs Ruiz Calavera was born in Madrid in 1962, where she grew up and obtained her university degree in Philology. She studied her senior year at Marlborough School in LA (USA) and has a masters' degree in Public Management by the "Ecole de Commerce Solvay" in Brussels. She held different management positions in the private sector before joining the EU.

Mrs Ruiz Calavera joined the European Commission in 1992 working in the negotiations for accession of Sweden, Finland and Austria in 1996 and the accession of the Baltic and Eastern European countries, Malta and Cyprus which become EU Member States in 2004.

She served in the European Commission Taskforce for the Reconstruction of Kosovo in Pristina during 1999-2000. She was Deputy Head of Unit for Serbia and Montenegro in 2002 and Head of the Kosovo issues unit in 2006. In January 2009, she was appointed Head of Unit for "Crisis Response and Peace Building" in the Directorate-General for External Relations. Following the creation of the European External Action Service in 2011, she joined the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) assisting the High Representative Federica Mogherini in her capacity as Vice-President of the European Commission.

On 1 June 2016, she was appointed Director in charge of the Western Balkans at the DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR). In this capacity, she is responsible for managing bilateral relations between the EU and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia, guiding and monitoring their progress towards the EU in the context of the Stabilisation and Association Process and supporting accession negotiations as required by the European Council. Her portfolio also includes promoting regional co-operation and providing support to the Western Balkans through the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance.