

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE? THE EU-U.S. COOPERATION & ITS IMPACT ON CONSUMERS

SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

Léa Auffret, BEUC, Europe

Léa Auffret is Senior International Affairs Officer and Team Leader at BEUC, the European Consumer Organisation.

She became Vice-President of the EU Domestic Advisory Group under the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement in 2022, and she is EU co-chair of the trade committee of the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD).

Within BEUC, Léa follows the EU developments around consumer rights in the international context. She leads the International Affairs team coordinating BEUC's policies in the area of free trade agreements, customs, international cooperation between regulators and related topics.



Nils Behrndt, Directorate General for Justice

and Consumers, European Commission, Europe
Nils Behrndt is currently Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers at the European Commission. The Directorate-General's policy areas cover civil and commercial justice, criminal justice, fundamental rights and rule of law, equality and Union citizenship, and consumers. As Deputy Director-General, Nils is in charge of Digital Transformation, civil and criminal justice and consumers protection.

After having worked as researcher and lawyer for some years in Germany, he has joined the European Commission in 2000. He held various positions in Directorate-General Enterprise and Industry, in the cabinets of Vice-President Günter Verheugen (Enterprise and Industry), Commissioner John Dalli and Commissioner Tonio Borg (Health and Consumer Policy) and Commissioner Neven Mimica (Consumer Policy; International cooperation and development).



Nils Behrndt has German and British law degrees and holds a Ph.D. in public administration/law.

Isabelle Buscke, vzbv, Germany

Isabelle Buscke is the Head of the EU liaison office in Brussels of the Federation of German Consumer Organisations Verbraucherzentrale Bundesverband (vzbv) – and coordinates the organisation's EU advocacy. She has been leading the office since its establishment in 2012.

The organisation covers all topics necessary to strengthen consumer rights: consumer law, digitalisation, financial services, energy, food mobility, etc. Ms Buscke represents vzbv on the board of BEUC (the European Consumer Organisation). Between 2013 and 2019, she represented German consumer organisations in the European Consumer Consultative Group.



Emma Calvert, BEUC, Europe

Emma Calvert is a Senior Food Policy Officer at the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC) in Brussels. Emma works on nutritional policy and in particular; nutritional labelling, marketing restrictions of foods high in fat, salt and sugar to children and reformulation. She also works on sustainability labelling. She previously worked at the European Parliament for six years for MEPs on the Environment, Food Safety and Public Health committee.



Jeff Chester, Center for Digital Democracy, U.S.

Jeff Chester is Executive Director of the Center for Digital Democracy (CDD), a Washington, DC non-profit organization. CDD is one of the leading U.S. NGOs advocating for citizens, consumers and other stakeholders on digital privacy and consumer protections online. Founded in 1991, CDD (then known as the Center for Media Education) led the campaign for the enactment of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA, 1998). During the 1990s it also played a prominent role in such issues as open access/network neutrality, diversity of media ownership, public interest policies for children and television, as well the development of the FCC's "E-Rate" funding to ensure that schools and libraries had the resources to offer Internet services.





Sara Collins, Public Knowledge, U.S.

Sara Collins is a Senior Policy Counsel at Public Knowledge, specializing in data protection and consumer privacy. She currently serves as an advisory board member for the Future of Privacy Forum and a governing board member of the DC Abortion Fund. Previously, Sara was a Policy Counsel on the Future of Privacy Forum's Education & Youth Privacy team specializing in higher education and young adult issues. She has also worked as an investigations attorney in the Enforcement Unit at Federal Student Aid, as well as the Director of Legal Services for Veterans Education Success.

Sara graduated from the Georgetown University Law Center in 2014. Originally from Chicago, Sara attended the University of Illinois, where she received a B.A. in both Political Science and English.

R.J. Cross, U.S. PIRG, U.S.

R.J. Cross is a policy analyst and campaign director with U.S. PIRG's New Economy program, working to protect consumers on the evolving frontiers of technological change and corporate abuse. Her work ranges from fighting against the commercialization of consumers' personal data, to fighting for the right to repair the devices we rely on every day. She is a researcher and advocate that works to influence U.S. policy at the both the federal and state level.



Christian D'Cunha, Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission, Europe

Christian is Head of the Cyber Coordination Task Force in DG CONNECT of the European Commission, supporting the coordination of situational awareness and response to cyber crises. In previous roles, he oversaw a study into digital advertising, led drafting of the Data Act proposal and the roll out of interoperable contact tracing apps during the COVID pandemic. Prior to this, he was head of the private office of the European Data Protection Supervisor. Before arriving in Brussels in 2008, his roles included advisor to the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales and private secretary to the Chairman of the UK Labour Party.

Iana Dreyer, Founder and editor of Borderlex
Iana Dreyer is the founder editor of Borderlex.eu, the leading European publication on trade policy. Before founding her publishing activity, Iana worked in think tanks, writing on trade and energy policy in Brussels and Paris. She has worked for the European Centre for International Political Economy, the Institute Montaigne and the EU Institute for Security Studies. Iana has also worked for the Financial Times group and has trained in journalism. Iana is a graduate from the School London School of Economics and Sciences Po in Paris. Iana currently commutes between London and Brussels.



Tomaso Falchetta, Privacy International

Tomaso Falchetta, Global Policy Lead, Privacy International. Tomaso joined Privacy International in 2014. As Global Policy Lead, he develops the organisation's international advocacy with the UN, the EU, and other relevant intergovernmental bodies.

Previously he worked for Amnesty International's (AI) International Secretariat, in the International Law and Policy Program, where he was legal and policy advisor. His main responsibilities included providing advice on international human rights and humanitarian law, drafting intervention before human rights courts and bodies and representing the organization before selected bodies of the UN and the Council of Europe. Tomaso is an Italian lawyer and has a Law Degree from the Law College in Ferrara (Italy).



Claire Fernandez, EDRI, Europe

Claire is EDRI's Executive Director. She is in charge of EDRI's leadership, mission and strategy, financial sustainability and oversight, and the daily management of the operations. Before joining EDRI, she worked as the Deputy Director of the European Network Against Racism (ENAR), and prior to that as an independent human rights consultant, and as an adviser to the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, and represented the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Bosnia and Kosovo. She holds a Master degree in Human Rights from the Robert Schuman University in Strasbourg, France.





Cristina Ganapini, The Right to Repair Coalition, Europe

Cristina Ganapini is the coordinator of the [Right to Repair Europe](#) coalition, which represents over 100 organisations from 21 European countries. The coalition represents environmental NGOs and repair actors such as community repair groups, social economy actors, spare parts distributors, self-repairers, repair and refurbishing businesses, and any citizen who would like to advocate for their right to repair. This is a rapidly growing movement, and its objective to make repair affordable, accessible and mainstream is aligned with the objectives of the European Green Deal and the Circular Economy Action plan. You can browse member organisations by country [here](#).

Monique Goyens, BEUC, Europe

As Director General of BEUC, Monique represents 45 independent national consumer associations in 31 European countries, acting as a strong consumer voice in Brussels, ensuring that consumer interests are given weight in the development of policies and raising the visibility and effectiveness of the consumer movement through lobbying EU institutions and media contacts.

As a consumer expert and advocate, and on behalf of BEUC, Monique is a member of the Euro Retail Payments Board as well as of the European Commission's Consumer Policy Advisory Group. She is also a member of the Advisory Group on Noncommunicable Diseases of WHO-Region Europe.

In her capacity as BEUC Director General, Monique is currently EU Co-Chair of the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD) a network of EU and US consumer organisations, and she also represents BEUC at Consumers International, the international consumer organisation.





Thomas Kramler, Directorate General for
Competition, European Commission

Thomas Kramler is head of the unit Digital Platforms III, dealing with e-commerce and data economy in the European Commission's Directorate General for Competition. The unit is responsible for the enforcement of the Digital Markets Act. Before that, he was Head of the Digital Single Market Task Force responsible for the e-commerce sector inquiry.

He holds a law degree and a PhD from the University of Vienna, Austria, and has graduated with a Master's degree in European Community Law from the College of Europe (Bruges).

Previously Mr Kramler was deputy head of the unit responsible for antitrust cases in the information industries, internet and consumer electronics sectors.

Before joining the European Commission Mr Kramler worked as agent representing the Austrian government before the European Courts in Luxembourg.

Finn Myrstad, Norwegian Consumer Council,
Norway

Finn Lützow-Holm Myrstad is the Director of Digital Policy at the Norwegian Consumer Council (NCC), focusing on national and international issues related to privacy, cyber security, net neutrality, copyright, telecommunication and more. He leads the development of more ethical digital policies.

Using targeted research and global coalition-building, he and his team at NCC convince governments and companies to improve their policies. Alongside advocacy, Finn shapes opinion through addresses to audiences such as the European Parliament, G20, Harvard, Princeton University, SXSW and TED.

Some of Finn's projects so far include privacy and security challenges posed by internet connected devices, user terms in apps, tech companies' use of dark patterns and how online tracking is out of control. He informs his digital work with his business and LSE degrees, and previous experience in politics, energy and the private sector. In 2018, he was named one of Politico's top influencers in the GDPR power matrix, and in 2017 he and his team won the European Excellence Awards for best Public Affairs campaign, for the work on connected toys.





Jon Nathan, Federal Trade Commission , U.S.

Jon Nathan is Acting Deputy Director in the USFTC's Office of International Affairs (OIA). He recently returned to that office following a stint as a competition Attorney Advisor to FTC Chair Lina Khan. Prior to his time with Chair Khan, Jon was in OIA where he was responsible for the FTC's competition enforcement and policy work with Europe and the UK. He has also served in a variety of other roles at the FTC, including six years as an Attorney Advisor to former FTC Chairwoman Edith Ramirez, and as an attorney in the FTC's Bureau of Competition, first litigating pay-for-delay cases and later working on successful merger challenges in the technology and chemical industries. Prior to joining the FTC, Jon was an antitrust attorney at Arnold & Porter and a law clerk for a federal judge. He is a graduate of Cornell University and the University of Michigan Law School.

**Martins Prieditis, Directorate General for
Justice and Consumers, European Commission,
Europe**

Martins Prieditis is deputy Head of Unit responsible for the European Union's consumer protection legislation in the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) of the European Commission. Martins currently leads the Unit's work on the evaluation (fitness check) of the main EU consumer instruments as regards digital fairness. He represents the Commission in the legislative negotiations on the proposal to promote the repair of goods that the Commission adopted in March 2023. He also deals with the implementation of the current EU consumer law directives, including the Better enforcement and modernisation Directive that entered into application in 2022 and covers aspects such as price reductions, 'dual quality' and online transparency.





Yara Qutteina, KU Leuven, Europe

Dr. Yara Qutteina is a research associate in the field of health communication sciences at the Institute for Media Studies in KU Leuven. Her career spanned over a variety of fields, including nutrition, public health, and communication, giving her an international interdisciplinary expertise in health communication. Her research focus for the past several years has been on the effect of social media food (marketing communication) on adolescent eating outcomes including eating attitudes and behaviors as well as food norms and literacy.

Didier Reynders, Commissioner for Justice
in charge of Rule of Law and Consumer
Protection, Europe

A father of four, Didier Reynders was born in Liège on 6th August 1958. In 1981, he obtained a degree in law at the University of Liège. Guest lecturer at the universities of Liège and Louvain, he never really left academia until he became on 1st December 2019 the European Commissioner for Justice.

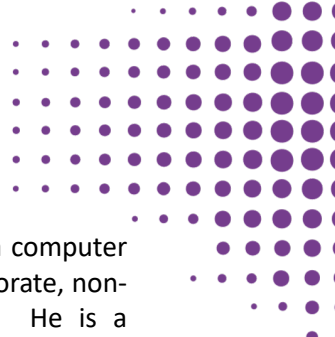
After chairing the Belgian railway Company and the Belgian Airways Agency, he was elected Member of the Belgium Parliament in 1992.

In July 1999, he became Minister of Finance and, in July 2004, Deputy Prime Minister (until November 2019). He was Chairman of the Mouvement Réformateur (liberal party alliance) from October 2004 until February 2011. He was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and European Affairs from December 2011 until November 2019. He was also Minister of Defense from December 2018 until November 2019.



Guilherme Roschke, Federal Trade Commission,
U.S.

Guilherme Roschke is Counsel for International Consumer Protection at the Federal Trade Commission. His focus is on international privacy and enforcement cooperation, including EU-US data transfers, the Global Privacy Enforcement Network, and the Global Privacy Assembly. Guilherme is also the U.S. Delegate to the OECD's Data Governance and Privacy working party. Previously, he was the Policy Counsel at Common Sense Media where he worked on children's privacy and digital literacy.



Prior to law school, Guilherme was a computer programmer with experience in corporate, non-profit, and scientific environments. He is a member of the District of Columbia and New York bars, and holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania, a JD from The George Washington University Law School, and an LLM from Georgetown Law.

Delphine Sallard, Directorate General for Trade,
European Commission, Europe

Delphine Sallard is senior expert trade and environment in the Trade department of the European Commission. Delphine has a long-standing career in the European institutions. Between 2018 and 2022 she was Minister Counsellor, Head of Trade and Economic Affairs at the Delegation of the European Union to Canada. Before being posted to Ottawa, she was head of the Transparency and Evaluation and of the Internal Audit and Evaluation units in the Trade department of the European Commission in Brussels. She has also worked as economist and head of the Financial Sector Analysis sector in the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs of the European Commission. Delphine holds a BBA from EM-Lyon, France, a post-graduate degree in economics from Science Po Paris, France, and an MBA from the Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada.



Calli Schroeder, EPIC, U.S.

Calli Schroeder is Senior Counsel and Global Privacy Counsel at EPIC. Calli focuses on international privacy developments and fosters relationships between global privacy experts and EPIC. Since joining the EPIC team in 2021, Calli has represented EPIC in multiple international fora, published academic articles on privacy issues, drafted and submitted multiple global regulatory comments on draft privacy regulations, and coordinated panels and webinars on international privacy matters. She previously acted as a Westin Research Fellow for the International Association of Privacy Professionals, interned with FTC Commissioner Julie Brill, and later performed international privacy compliance and security work for clients.



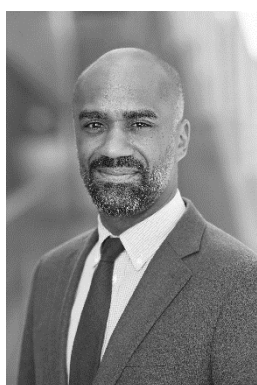
Melinda St Louis, Public Citizen, U.S.

Melinda St. Louis is the director of Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch. Since working alongside labor unions and farmer organizations in Nicaragua fighting for fair trade policies more than two decades ago, St. Louis has developed deep expertise in trade and globalization issues and fought for progressive alternatives to corporate globalization that benefit people and the planet. She provides expert analysis of technical trade agreement provisions and implications for domestic policymaking to Congress and high-level government officials, the press, and civil society partners in the U.S. and around the globe and has helped lead successful campaigns to stop the corporate agenda of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, advance official discussions at the World Trade Organization about financial regulation, and support governments exiting from harmful investment treaties.



Prof. Olivier Sylvain, Federal Trade Commission, U.S.

Olivier is a Senior Advisor to the Chair of the U.S. Federal Trade Commission. He is also a Professor of Law Fordham University in New York City, where his focus is on administrative law, communications law, consumer protection, data protection, and civil rights. Before academia, Olivier worked at the American Civil Liberties Union's National Legal Office and Jenner & Block's Washington, D.C. offices. Before joining the FTC, he was the Board President of the ACLU's New York affiliate and sat on several boards.



Vanessa Turner, BEUC, Europe

Vanessa is Senior Advisor - Competition at The European Consumer Organisation, BEUC. Within BEUC, Vanessa focusses on ensuring that consumer interests are taken into account in European competition policy and key enforcement cases, in particular in Digital Markets and Sustainability. Since September 2020 Vanessa also acts as a non-governmental advisor to the International Competition Network for the European Commission.



Prior to joining BEUC, Vanessa was a Partner in the Competition Practice of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and Allen & Overy in Brussels (as well as in London and Düsseldorf). In between these roles, she was a Member of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Competition Policy at the European Commission (responsible for mergers and antitrust cases and policy), Special Advisor to the US FTC in Washington DC, and General Counsel, Company Secretary and Executive Vice President at Visa Europe.

Vanessa has a Law Degree from the University of Surrey, UK, a Masters in European Law from the Institut d'études européennes, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium. She is a British and German qualified lawyer admitted to the bar in England and Wales, and Düsseldorf. Vanessa also holds a Master's in psychology from the University of Sussex, UK and is a qualified Executive Coach.



Robert Weissman, Public Citizen, U.S. Robert Weissman is president of Public Citizen and a staunch public interest advocate and activist, as well as an expert on corporate and government accountability. He is available to discuss the effect of money on politics, economic and regulatory policy, corporate crime and wrongdoing, trade and globalization, financial reform, prescription drug pricing and access to the courts. He worked as director of the corporate accountability organization Essential Action from 1995 to 2009. From 1989 to 2009, he was editor of the Multinational Monitor, a magazine that tracked multinational corporations. Weissman helped make HIV drugs available to the developing world and has provided assistance to numerous governments on intellectual property and access to medicine issues. He previously worked as a public interest attorney at the Center for Study of Responsive Law. A member of the Ohio bar, Weissman earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he graduated magna cum laude.