

# THE JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE OPENS A REPRESENTATION IN BRUSSELS

The Jacques Delors Institute, a European think tank founded by the former European Commission President in 1996 and chaired by former Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta, currently the Dean of International Affairs School of Sciences Po in Paris, has decided to strengthen its presence in Brussels by opening a Representation under the direction of Mme. Geneviève Pons, formerly Director of the World Wildlife Fund's European Policy Office.

Holding degrees from the Sorbonne, Sciences Po Paris and the ENA, Geneviève Pons is also a Honorary Director of the European Commission, having served in that institution for 22 years. She was in charge of environmental and climate-related issues in Jacques Delors' cabinet in the course of his last two mandates (1991-1995) and was responsible, in particular, for devising the very first sustainable development agenda for Europe. She was subsequently responsible for a number of units in the Commission's Department for Industry, and in 2010 she joined the Direction "Better Regulation" of the General Secretariat at the European Commission. She was appointed Director of the Legal Service with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in 2013 and Director of the WWF European Policy Office in 2015.

"We fully intend to make a major contribution to this especially favourable moment for reforming the Union", said Chairman Enrico Letta, explaining the thinking behind the Institute's decision to open a Representation in Brussels. "The resolutely pro-European approach of the French President, along with that of Chancellor Merkel and of President Juncker, provides us with a long-awaited opportunity to implement the reforms needed both in the euro area and within the EU as a whole. The decision to set up a Representation of the Jacques Delors Institute in Brussels is part and parcel of that strategy. It will facilitate the interaction of our two offices in Paris and Berlin with the Community institutions. I am delighted that Geneviève Pons has agreed to place her vast skill and experience at our think tank's disposal and to represent us in Brussels".

Sébastien Maillard, the Director of the Jacques Delors Institute, also addressed a warm word of welcome to Geneviève Pons:

"I am delighted to welcome Geneviève on board; she will be representing us in Brussels, where she will focus on promoting our work and on developing our activities. She will also be bringing with her her renowned expertise in environmental issues, thus enriching our research in a domain of crucial importance for Europe and for the future of our planet".

Geneviève Pons will be taking up her post on 1 November 2017.