

# FEDIL INDUSTRY DAY

## 2023

## Short CVs of panelists



### **Claude Meisch**

Minister of Education, Children and Youth  
Minister for Higher Education and Research

After obtaining his final school diploma from the Lycée technique Mathias Adam, Claude Meisch enrolled at the University of Trier, from which he graduated in mathematics and economics in 1998.

Following the legislative elections of 20 October 2013, Claude Meisch joined the government as Minister of Education, Children and Youth and as Minister for Higher Education and Research on 4 December 2013 in the coalition government formed by the Democratic Party (DP), the Luxembourg Socialist Workers' Party (LSAP) and the Green Party (déi gréng). After the legislative elections of 14 October 2018, he was reappointed as minister. A member of the DP since 1994, Claude Meisch was elected to Parliament for the first time in 1999. He was re-elected in 2004, 2009 and 2013. At local level, Claude Meisch initially served as a municipal alderman in Differdange from 2000 to 2002, then as mayor from 2002 to 2013.



### **Franz Fayot**

Minister of the Economy  
Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs

Following secondary school studies at the Athénée de Luxembourg, Franz Fayot pursued a higher education in Luxembourg and Paris, followed by a DEA (post-graduate diploma of advanced studies) in corporate law from the Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne in 1996. Following the cabinet reshuffle on 4 February 2020, Franz Fayot joined the coalition government formed by the Democratic Party (DP), the Luxembourg Socialist Workers' Party (LSAP) and the Green Party (déi gréng). He was appointed Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs and Minister of the Economy.

A member of the LSAP since 1994, Franz Fayot was elected to Parliament in 2013 and in 2018; he became chairman of the LSAP in 2019. From 1997 until his appointment to the government, Franz Fayot worked as a barrister in Luxembourg.



**Joëlle Welfring**

Minister for the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development

After finishing her secondary education at the Lycée Hubert Clément, Joëlle Welfring completed her studies at the Université Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg, where she received a master's degree in biochemistry in 1997. In 1998, she obtained a master's degree in environmental sciences at Brunel University in London.

On 2 May 2022, following the resignation of Carole Dieschbourg, Joëlle Welfring joined the coalition government formed by the Democratic Party (DP), the Luxembourg Socialist Workers' Party (LSAP) and the Green Party (déi gréng) as Minister for the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development.

Previously from 2010 to 2014, Joëlle Welfring served as director of the Business Development department at the Henri Tudor Public Research Centre, after having directed the Resource Centre for Environmental Technologies (CRTE). On 1 April 2022, Joëlle Welfring was appointed as director of the Environment Agency, where she had been serving as deputy director since 2014.



**Christophe Hansen**

Member of the European Parliament

Since September 2018, Christophe Hansen, who serves as a member of the CSV in the EPP group, has represented the interests of Luxembourg and European citizens in the European Parliament, particularly in the areas of international trade, the environment and the economy. He was re-elected as an MEP in 2019 and elected Quaestor by his peers in 2022. As coordinator for the largest group in the European Parliament on the International Trade Committee, Christophe Hansen is heavily involved in negotiations for EU free trade agreements, including the trade agreements between the EU and Mexico, Chili, Australia, New Zealand and Mercosur. He was Parliament's lead negotiator for the ratification of the Trade & Cooperation Agreement with the UK. Representing the EP, he successfully negotiated and delivered significant legislative proposals, such as the "drinking water" directive as well as the ground-breaking regulation on foreign subsidies and the anti-deforestation regulation.

After obtaining a master's degree in geosciences, environmental sciences and risk management, Christophe Hansen embarked on a European career as policy advisor to a Member of the European Parliament, followed by stints at the Permanent Representation of Luxembourg and at the Brussels branch of the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce.



**Anne Calteux**

Head of Representation of EU Commission to Luxembourg

Anne Calteux has been the European Commission's Representative in Luxembourg since September 2021. After her position as Head of European and International Affairs and Senior Advisor to the Minister of Health in Luxembourg, she now manages political communication and strategic coordination for the European Commission in Luxembourg. A European at heart, Anne Calteux has held a number of senior positions where she has exercised a high level of responsibility, notably in the COVID-19 crisis unit at the Ministry of Health. She holds a Master's degree in comparative European law from LLM King's College London, and was a member of the Luxembourg Bar from 1999-2003. Between 2004 and 2013, she covered health and social security files for Luxembourg at the Council of the EU in Brussels.



**Prof. Jens Kreisel**  
Rector, University of Luxembourg

Prof. Jens Kreisel took office as Rector of the University of Luxembourg on 1 January 2023.

Jens Kreisel studied physics and materials sciences in Karlsruhe (D), Lyon (F) and Grenoble (F) and obtained in 1999 his PhD in materials physics at the Grenoble Institute of Technology (Grenoble INP). After a post-doc at the University of Oxford, he continued his international career in Grenoble where he was until 2011 Director of Research at CNRS, the French National Centre for Scientific Research. From 2006 to 2011, he also acted as advisor to the President and then as Deputy Vice-President for International Relations in the senior management team of Grenoble INP.

In 2012, Jens Kreisel joined Luxembourg and became the Founding Director of the Materials Research and Technology department at the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST). In September 2018, he was appointed Vice-rector for Research at the University of Luxembourg and Full Professor in Physics and Materials Science. He is one of the main architects of both the Strategy framework and the current Four-Year-Plan of the University. Jens Kreisel has extensive experience in setting-up and implementing Public-Private Partnerships, and cherishes both fundamental and applied research.



**Pierre Laffont**  
Director, EU Affairs, France Industrie

Pierre Laffont is a graduate of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Toulouse and holds a master's degree in European affairs (Spain). He began his career in 2009 at the European Parliament as an assistant to MEPs, where he dealt with issues such as European industrial policy, air transport, the aerospace industry and the Structural Funds. In 2017, he joined the Brussels-based Aerospace and Defence Industries Association of Europe (ASD), where he was in charge of ASD's European public affairs.

Pierre Laffont, as Director, EU Affairs, leads France Industrie's representation to the European Institutions and coordinates France Industrie's relations with its European counterparts. In liaison with the European representatives of the members of France Industrie, he is committed to defend and communicate on the fundamental role of French industrial companies within the framework of the new European industrial policy, and on its transversal levers: competitive decarbonisation, international trade, competition, research and innovation, and digital.



**Jana Meisser**  
Head of Special projects, Long Products, ArcelorMittal

Jana Meisser has 26 years' professional experience in industry. After studying chemistry at the Martin Luther University in Halle-Wittenberg (Germany) and working as a scientific assistant for three years at the same university, Jana Meisser joined Euroinnovation in Luxembourg as Leader of a recycling project. She continued her professional career with glass producer Guardian as Head of production.

In 2002, she joined ArcelorMittal, where she has held a number of positions, including Head of the environmental department Luxembourg & Europe, Head of human resources at the Differdange Steelplant, CTO Europe and Head of Steelplant Differdange. She is currently Head of Special projects at Long Products Luxembourg.



**Jose Morente**  
Managing Partner, Antal Luxembourg

Jose Morente graduated from Neoma Business School (Reims) and ICADE (Madrid) with majors in International Finance and Industrial Marketing. During the past 25 years, he has held management and executive positions at General Motors/Delphi in France, China, Australia, the United States and Luxembourg in the areas of communications, operations, marketing, sales and corporate affairs. In 2018, he joined the Antal Network in Luxembourg. He started his recruitment career with a focus on technical positions in the automotive industry before expanding into leadership positions in finance and start-ups. Jose is passionate about leadership and people's development having managed large teams over four continents. He won the prestigious Delphi's Glen D. Hall mentoring award in 2009 and Antal's newcomer of the year award in 2018. He has made leadership placements in Luxembourg, France, Spain, China, Romania, Poland and the United States.



**Sabine von der Recke**  
Board Member, OHB System AG

Sabine von der Recke is responsible for Political Relations, Customer Relations and Communications on OHB System AG's Management Board. OHB System AG is one of Europe's leading space technology companies and the largest subsidiary of listed high-tech group OHB SE, which employs a workforce of almost 3,000 throughout Europe. OHB System AG develops and implements innovative high-tech solutions for space flight and other fields of application. Prior to her appointment to the Management Board of OHB System AG, she had served as OHB SE's Management Board Representative for Political and Government Affairs since 2014. She has been the spokesperson for the German Offshore Spaceport Alliance (GOSA) since 2020.

After studying political science at Philipps University in Marburg, she worked as a research assistant and office manager at the German Bundestag from 2008-2014, including as an advisor to the parliamentary group on aerospace. Sabine von der Recke is a member of the DLR Senate, Vice President of the ZARM Sponsors' Association and a member of the Board of the Aerospace Forum.



**Georges Rassel**  
Vice-Chair, FEDIL

Georges Rassel studied at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. After obtaining his degree in Civil Engineering in 1988, he joined Paul Wurth as an engineer in the "Bridges and Structures - General Contracting" department. In 1995, he moved to the Metallurgy department, where he rose through the ranks. In January 2011, Georges Rassel joined the Group's Executive Committee as Chief Operating Officer before being appointed Chief Executive Officer in January 2015 until January 2023. He also sits on the Board of Directors of Peintures Robin, ING Luxembourg SA and Norsk E-fuel. Since January 2023, he has been a member of the Board of Directors of Paul Wurth. Having joined the Board of Directors of FEDIL in 2015, Georges Rassel has been appointed Vice-Chair in 2023.



**Jean-Louis Schiltz**  
Vice-Chair, FEDIL

Jean-Louis Schiltz is the Vice-Chair of FEDIL since 2019. He is the Senior partner at SCHILTZ & SCHILTZ, avocats. He advises on tech law and regulatory matters.

Jean-Louis Schiltz is a Professor (hon.) at the University of Luxembourg's where he teaches tech law. He is the Vice-Chair of RTL Group and the Chair of Brasserie Nationale, Luxembourg's largest regional brewer.

From 2004 to 2009, Jean-Louis Schiltz served as Cabinet Minister in Luxembourg. His portfolio included defence, media, telecommunications, technology and international development.



**René Winkin**  
General Manager, FEDIL

René Winkin has been the General Manager of FEDIL since 2016. After joining FEDIL in 1991, he held the positions of economic attaché and advisor before being appointed secretary general in 2006. René was also responsible for the 'Industrial Policy' department and was the secretary general of the Groupement Pétrolier Luxembourgeois for 23 years. He has represented the interests of the Luxembourg industry in several national and European advisory and decision-making bodies. At the national level, he is a member of the executive committee of the UEL (Union des Entreprises Luxembourgeoises), he sits on the CES (Conseil Economique et Social) and on the board of directors of the ODL (Office du Ducroire Luxembourg) and of the Pension Scheme Investment Fund. As a member of the Executive Committee of BusinessEurope, he has actively contributed to the work of its 'Industrial Affairs' commission. René holds a master's degree in economics - management and international business relations of the Louis Pasteur University of Strasbourg.