

Annalisa GIANNELLA

Annalisa Giannella started her career as a European official in 1972, gaining a wide range of experience in all areas of European policies.

She worked on European Community matters until March 1994 in the fields of environmental protection and internal market (financial services and company law, among others). She participated in international negotiations in various configurations, and she was in charge of the Secretariat for the EEC-Switzerland agreement on insurance, the Lugano Convention with the EFTA countries on recognition and execution of judicial decisions, and of the international Bankruptcy Convention.

In 1994 she began her professional activity in the areas of Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). First as Head of Division for Security issues and from September 1999, as Director for Security and Defence Policy. In this capacity she contributed to the development of the ESDP. From February 2002 to August 2003, Mrs. Giannella was appointed Deputy Secretary-General to the European Convention.

On 10 October 2003, the High Representative for CFSP, Javier Solana, appointed her as his Personal Representative for non-proliferation of WMD to co-ordinate, help implement and further develop the EU WMD Strategy, and to give sharper focus to these issues in the dialogue with third countries.

Today, her office is also responsible for the implementation of the EU SALW Strategy, adopted in 2005, and assists EU Member States in their efforts to coordinate policies in the area of conventional arms exports controls. Concerning negotiations with Iran on its nuclear programme, her office has assisted, since Autumn 2004, the High Representative for CFSP and the three EU Member States (Germany, France and the United Kingdom) which started these difficult endeavours.

In 2003 she was awarded the title of Commendatore by the President of the Italian Republic. In 2006 she received the French Légion d'Honneur.

Annalisa Giannella, an Italian national, was born in Bari (Italy) and holds a degree in Political Science. She speaks Italian, French, English and Spanish. She is married.