

# Biographies

## Welcome



@2021PortugalEU

### **Telma Branco**

Environment Attaché

Permanent Representation of Portugal to the European Union

Telma Branco is the Environment Attaché at the Permanent Representation of Portugal to the EU. She has strong experience in both European and Environment areas having previously worked as Head of Unit of European Affairs at the Portuguese Ministry of Environment and as a Senior Officer in the International Relations Department of the Portuguese Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy. Prior to these roles Ms Branco was a consultant at the Portuguese Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning and was a Bellevue Fellow at the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy of France.

Ms Branco holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the ISCTE – Lisbon University Institute and a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from ISCSP at the University of Lisbon. Ms Branco is a native Portuguese speaker and speaks fluent English and French.



@LeahCharpentier

### **Leah Charpentier**

Board Member, AmCham EU

Head of European Regulatory & Government Affairs, First Solar

Leah Charpentier leads the European advocacy and regulatory efforts of First Solar, a leading and innovative provider of global photovoltaic energy solutions.

At First Solar, she is responsible for developing and implementing EU and national advocacy strategies. She is also actively involved in the company's sustainability and European business development efforts. With over 10 years' experience in the Brussels advocacy environment, Leah Charpentier has developed an expertise in EU energy, climate, chemical and waste legislation. Before joining First Solar, she worked for Goodyear, and in this role represented the tire industry on a number of EU expert groups.

She is a Board Member of AmCham EU and is also the Vice-Chair of SolarPower Europe's Strategy Committee.

## Panel

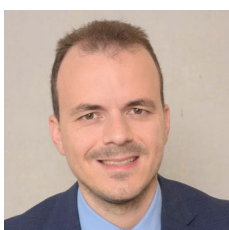


@EU\_Growth

### **Ewout Deurwaarder**

Policy Officer Batteries and Ecodesign, DG GROW  
European Commission

Ewout Deurwaarder has been a policy officer in the European Commission since 2007, having worked in several areas of energy and product policy, currently batteries and ecodesign in the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. He holds a Master's Degree in chemical engineering and chemistry from Eindhoven University of Technology.



@vasileios\_rizos

### **Vasileios Rizos**

Head of Sustainable Resources and Circular Economy  
CEPS

Vasileios Rizos is a Research Fellow and Head of Sustainable Resources and Circular Economy at CEPS. He is an expert in various aspects of the circular economy and analyses regulatory and market barriers to the adoption of circular economy practices in Europe and beyond. Vasileios' main research areas at CEPS include circular economy policies, industrial sustainability, green value chains, low-carbon transport and resource efficiency indicators. He was co-chair of the Circular Economy Task Force of the Think20 (T20) network that supported G20 activities under the German presidency 2016-17. Between 2016 and 2018 he was the coordinator of the CEPS Task Force on the Role of Business in the Circular Economy.

Previously Vasileios worked in DG Environment at the European Commission and the Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI). As a trainee at the European Commission he dealt with the implementation of the Waste Framework Directive and the use of economic instruments for improving resource efficiency across the EU. As a Project Officer at CEPI he worked on an assessment of producer responsibility schemes across Europe.

He is the lead author of several publications on circular business innovation and policy instruments that can encourage the green market transition.



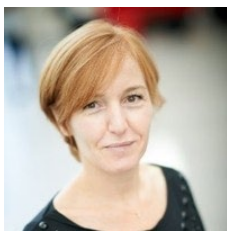
@emibava

### **Emilia Valbum**

Manager, Government Affairs, Europe  
3M

Emilia Valbum is a Government Affairs Manager at 3M. She is currently the Chair of the Working Group for Batteries at the Platform for Electromobility, and Vice-Chair of the AmCham EU Healthcare Committee. In her role, Emilia focuses on the areas of healthcare, transport and energy within EU government affairs. Previously, Emilia worked within the McDonald's International Public Affairs team, as Head of Cabinet in the European Parliament, and as Head of Section at the Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark, gaining valuable experience working on EU policy. Prior to this, Emilia was a Project communication coordinator for COP16 and an Academic Intern at the European Parliament.

Emilia holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Economy and a Master's Degree in Public Affairs, EU and Global Studies from Roskilde University.



@SilkeCo

Moderator

**Silke Conrad**

Head of EU Regulatory Affairs Trucks and Buses  
Daimler

Silke Conrad has been working within Daimler in Public Affairs for many years, focusing on climate, environmental, transport and energy issues.

Beside that she has been closely following specific automotive topics like the General Safety Regulation and taxation.

Since last year she is mainly responsible for the Truck and Bus division within Daimler AG, where she also focuses on topics like infrastructure, more specifically on charging infrastructure for low-emission vehicles. The importance of low emission technology for the automotive industry has become of high importance and has led to an intensive interest in the battery regulation.