

The European Commission



General Information

- The Commission manages and runs the European Union by upholding the common interest
- Members: since 2004 one for each member state, appointed for a five-year term by agreement between the member states, the approval by the European Parliament is necessary
- The European Parliament can make a motion against the Commission as a whole aiming on its resign
- Competences: Right of initiative, 'Guardian of the Treaties', ensuring the implementation of the regulations and directives adopted by the Council and Parliament in the member states; compliance can be forced by a trial at the Court of Justice, management of the EU's common policies and the budget for these policies.
- Commissions administration: 36 Directorates General (DGs) and services.

The Commissioners 2004-2009



The members of the Barroso Commission (2004 - 2009)



José Manuel Barroso



President



Margot Wallström



Vice President

Institutional Relations and
Communication Strategy



Günter Verheugen



Vice President

Enterprise and Industry



Jacques Barrot



Vice President

Transport



Siim Kallas



Vice President

Administrative Affairs,
Audit and Anti-Fraud



Franco Frattini



Vice President

Justice, Freedom and
Security



Viviane Reding



Vice President

Information Society
and Media



**Stavros
Dimas**



Environment



**Joaquín
Almunia**



Economic and Monetary
Affairs



**Danuta
Hübner**



Regional Policy



**Joe
Borg**



Fisheries and Maritime
Affairs



**Dalia
Grybauskaitė**



Financial Programming
and Budget



**Janez
Potočnik**



Science and Research



**Ján
Figel**



Education, Training,
Culture and Youth



**Markos
Kyprianou**



Health



**Olli
Rehn**



Enlargement



Louis Michel



Development and Humanitarian Aid



László Kovács



Taxation and Customs Union



Neelie Kroes



Competition



Mariann Fischer Boel



Agriculture and Rural Development



Benita Ferrero-Waldner



External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy



Charlie McCreevy



Internal Market and Services



Vladimír Špidla



Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities



Peter Mandelson



Trade



Andris Piebalgs



Energy



Meglena Kuneva



Consumer Protection



Leonard Orban



Multilingualism