



European Parliament  
**FORMER MEMBERS  
ASSOCIATION**

# **FMA ANNUAL SEMINAR**

## ***"The European Union and its Parliament in a Global Context"***

**11 December 2019**

**Room ASP5E-2, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

**BRUSSELS**

# PROFILE OF SPEAKERS

## Hans-Gert PÖTTERING

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President of the European Parliament Former Members Association and Former EP President.



**Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering** is a German politician (CDU) and was the longest serving member of the European Parliament (EP) since its first direct election in 1979. His mandate ended on July 1st 2014 – after 35 years of uninterrupted membership. Dr. Pöttering held a number of leading positions in the EP and European People’s Party throughout his political career. From 1999 to 2007 he was Chairman of the European People’s Party-European Democrats Group in the European Parliament. From 2007 until 2009 he served as President of the European Parliament. He initiated the House of European History which was opened in Brussels in May 2017. Dr. Pöttering has published widely on various issues of European affairs. His autobiography titled “Wir sind zu unserem Glück vereint – Mein

europäischer Weg” (2014) has been translated into various languages.

He is currently the President of the European Parliament Former Members Association (FMA).

He was chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) from 1.1.2010-1.1.2018. Now he is Representative for European affairs on behalf of the KAS.

## Heidi HAUTALA

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Vice-President of the European Parliament.



**Heidi Hautala** is MEP and Vice-President of the European Parliament and was formerly a MEP from 1995-2003, 2009-2011 and 2014-present. She is the only Finn to have chaired a European parliament political group or a committee. As chair of the parliament’s subcommittee on Human Rights, she had the unique opportunity to influence the Human Rights situation all over the world.

Ms Hautala also gained prominence in promoting binding referendums and citizens’ initiatives. In 2001 she was involved in the foundation of the Initiative and referendum institute Europe (IRIE). From 2007 she was a founding member and honorary Vice-President of the EU-Russia centre, based in Brussels. In 2008 she was invited to be chair of the Green European Foundation, which is close to the European Green Party. Before becoming the minister for international development, she chaired the European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights, which has the task of monitoring and promoting human rights throughout the world.

## Elmar BROK

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Former Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.



**Elmar Brok** is a German politician. He studied law and politics in Germany and at the Centre for European Governmental Studies at the University of Edinburgh. He worked as a radio journalist and newspaper correspondent, before he became Senior Vice President for Media Development at Bertelsmann AG. Within the Christian Democratic Party in Germany, Brok holds numerous leadership positions. He entered the European Parliament in 1980. As the EPP group leader on the Convention on the Constitution for Europe and in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, Mr Brok contributed crucially to the Constitution of the European Union.

During his time in the EP, Mr Brok was the European Parliament Representative on the Council's Reflection Group for Maastricht II, the European Parliament Representative at all the Intergovernmental Conferences from the Treaty of Amsterdam until the treaty of Lisbon, and lately rapporteur on the European External Action Service (EEAS). He was 13 years chairman of AFET.

He received many honours, including the First Class Federal Cross of Merit. Since 2013, Brok was also the President of the Union of European Federalists.

## Pat COX

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President of The Jean Monnet Foundation for Europe and Former President of the European Parliament and of the FMA.



**Pat Cox** is a former President of the European Parliament, of the European Liberal Democrat and Reformist group, of the European Movement International and of the Former Members' Association of the Parliament. Currently he is President of the Jean Monnet Foundation for Europe in Lausanne, Switzerland. He has worked as an academic, a television broadcaster and has served in both Dáil Éireann, the Irish Parliament, and the European Parliament. He is engaged in an extensive range of European affairs from pan-EU transport policy to democratic capacity building in Ukraine and is a

member of the European Investment Bank's Appointment Advisory Committee. He has focused increasingly in recent years on issues of sustainability and combatting climate change, chairing several business and civil society boards in this regard. He is trustee of several registered charities in the ageing, cultural, research and international relations fields. Mr Cox holds a number of honorary doctorates and is the recipient of many international honours. He is a Commandeur de la Légion d'honneur and Commandeur de l'ordre des Palmes académiques of France and is a recipient of the Charlemagne Prize of Aachen.

## John Erik FOSSUM

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Member of the Academic Committee of the House of European History.



**John Erik Fossum** is research coordinator of the H2020 project EU3D. His main fields of research include political theory, democracy, constitutionalism in the EU and Canada, as well as Europeanisation and transformation of the nation state. In the last two decades, Fossum has contributed extensively to the field of developing and applying federal and democratic theory to the EU as a distinct political system, and comparing the EU with Canada. He has authored and edited 18 books, including the following with E. O. Eriksen, *Democracy in the European Union: Integration through Deliberation?* (Routledge, 2000), *Rethinking Democracy and the European Union* (Routledge, 2012), *The European*

*Union's Non-Members: Independence under Hegemony?* (Routledge, 2015), *The Constitution's Gift* with A. J. Menéndez, and with H.P. Graver (2018) *Squaring the Circle on Brexit – Could the Norway model work?* as well as a broad range of journal special issues, articles and book chapters. He is co-editor of the *Routledge Studies on Democratizing Europe*.

