

PERSONAL INFORMATION Karen Vandekerckhove

POSITION Alternate member of the Management Board of EIGE

WORK EXPERIENCE

16/02/2017–Present

Head of unit

European Commission, Directorate-General Justice and Consumers, Gender Equality unit, Brussels (Belgium)

Manage and lead the unit dealing with anti-discrimination based on sex, including in matters of employment and occupation and violence against women, both in the European Union and at the international level (United Nations, Council of Europe, International Labour Organisation). Lead a team of around 23 members, covering both legal and policy work including strategic policy development, legislative negotiations with Council and European Parliament, cases before European Court of Justice, international relations with UN, Council of Europe, International Labour Organisation.

Fellowship at the University of California at Berkeley 2019-2020

2011–02/2017

Acting head of unit, deputy head of unit, team leader

European Commission, Directorate-General Justice and Consumers, Civil Justice unit, Brussels (Belgium)

Acting head of unit (December 2015–October 2016) and deputy head of a unit (2014–2015) of around 20 persons with an *acquis* of around twenty-five legislative instruments and projects. Experience covers all the tasks of the Commission under the Treaty, in particular:

- policy development, preparation of legislative initiatives and negotiations of several Union instruments, both in civil and commercial matters (ordinary legislative procedure) and in family law (unanimity)
- close relationship and cooperation with Member States' delegations, permanent representations, Members of the European Parliament, external stakeholders
- implementation of existing Union legislation, including delegated and implementing acts (comitology), preparation of Commission positions before the European Court of Justice, infringements, implementation meetings, notifications by Member States
- management and chairing of the European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters;
- representation of the Union at the international level in bodies set up under international conventions, negotiation of international conventions, diplomatic conferences, special commissions of Hague Conference on Private International Law/Uncitral

2011

Desk officer

European Commission, Directorate-General Justice and Consumers, Data Protection Unit, Brussels (Belgium)

Secondment to assist in the preparation of the new General Data Protection Regulation

09/2015–Present

Chargé de cours/collaborateur scientifique

Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve, Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium)

Invited teaching in the course "Questions d'actualité de droit international privé" in the Master law studies programme