



4 DECEMBER 2023 UfM TRADE AND INVESTMENT FORUM BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Biographies of Speakers and Panelists



Mr. Nasser Kamel
Secretary General
Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

A career diplomat for the Egyptian government, Nasser Kamel held the position of Ambassador of Egypt to the United Kingdom from 2014 to 2018. He was also Ambassador to France in the period 2006-2012, during which he took part in the drafting of the Joint Declaration of the 2008 Paris Summit that marked the launch of the Union for the Mediterranean. Furthermore, between 2012 and 2014, he was Assistant Minister for Arab and Middle Eastern Affairs. From 2004 to 2006, he was the Director of Egypt's Public Information Service. Prior to this position he served in various embassies, including Washington (1984-1988), Lisbon (1990-1994), Tunis (1994-1998), Brussels (1999-2001) and Paris (2001-2004).



Mr. Leopoldo Rubinacci
Deputy Director General
European Commission, DG TRADE

Leopoldo Rubinacci currently serves as the Deputy Director General in the Directorate-General for Trade of the European Commission. In this role, he is responsible for overseeing EU trade relations with the Americas and neighboring countries to the EU, as well as handling trade aspects related to agriculture, food safety, trade in goods (including raw materials and energy), regulatory cooperation, and trade aspects of public procurement.

Mr. Rubinacci joined the European Commission in 1995, initially in what is now known as DG Environment, before transitioning to DG Trade in 1997, where he held various positions. From 2015 to 2020, he served as the Director for Trade Defence, and subsequently took on the role of Resources Director between 2020 and 2022.



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Ms. Ines Rocha

Managing Director of Impact & Partnerships at EBRD
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Ines currently serves as the Managing Director for Impact and Partnerships at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). With over 20 years of experience in the financial industry and capital markets, she brings a wealth of expertise to her role. In her previous positions, Ines worked as a senior banker in the Financial Institutions team at EBRD, focusing on structured products and capital market investments in both bank and non-bank financial institutions across the EBRD's Countries of Operations. She later assumed the role of Director of Financial Products in the SME F&D team. Before joining EBRD, Ines worked in the Equity Capital Markets division of UBS Investment Bank in London, where her responsibilities covered the EMEA region. Prior to her international roles, she contributed to the Central Bank of Portugal, concentrating on ECB/Eurosystem matters.



Mr. Lèon Delvaux

Director for Neighbouring Countries, Industry, Goods, Regulatory Cooperation and Public Procurement, EU Commission, DG TRADE.

Léon Delvaux is currently the Acting Director of Directorate E in the European Commission's DG TRADE. Before this role, he served as a Member of the Cabinet of the President of the European Commission, advising on matters related to the development and implementation of trade policy. Prior to joining the Commission, Delvaux had a distinguished diplomatic career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg, holding positions such as Ambassador to Kosovo and Montenegro and Counsellor to the Permanent Representation of Luxembourg to the European Union in Brussels. In the latter role, he coordinated activities, including Coreper I and subsequently Coreper II, and represented Luxembourg in the Intergovernmental Conference leading to the Lisbon Treaty.



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Mr. Yahya Elwathik Bellah Ahmed

First Undersecretary of State

*Head of the Egyptian Commercial Service, Ministry of Trade and Industry
Egypt*

Yahya Elwathik Bellah Ahmed has more than 27 years of international career experience working in several countries including Australia, Canada, Spain, Belgium, and Egypt in the field of Business Development and Economic Development. Prior to his current position, he was Minister Plenipotentiary, Director of the Trade Mission of Egypt at the Embassy of Egypt to the EU, Belgium, and Luxembourg. He also served as Commercial Counsellor and Director of Africa and COMESA Department in Cairo and was a Consultant of Economic Development Programs and Strategic Initiatives in Canada. Between 2008 and 2010 he was the First Secretary of ECS and served as Consul of Economic and Commercial Affairs in Montreal between 2004-2008.



Mr. Ramy Boujawdeh

Chief Operating Officer/Berytech, Lebanon.

Ramy Boujawdeh, Berytech's Chief Operating Officer since 2014, leads initiatives in entrepreneurship and innovation, with a focus on supporting SMEs. He has particularly emphasized industry verticals like Agri-Food and Cleantech Innovations across the MENA region. Ramy is dedicated to promoting the circular economy, addressing climate change, and fostering citizen engagement. Besides his role at Berytech, he actively supports various social causes in Lebanon, including education, sustainability, agriculture, environment, gender equity, and economic development. Ramy holds positions such as Vice President of the NGO Rural Entrepreneurs, External Advisor for the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science at the American University of Beirut, and Council Member at the Order of Engineers and Architects. Additionally, he serves as a Board member representing Non-EU Members, including Lebanon, in the European Business & Innovation Centers Network (EBN).



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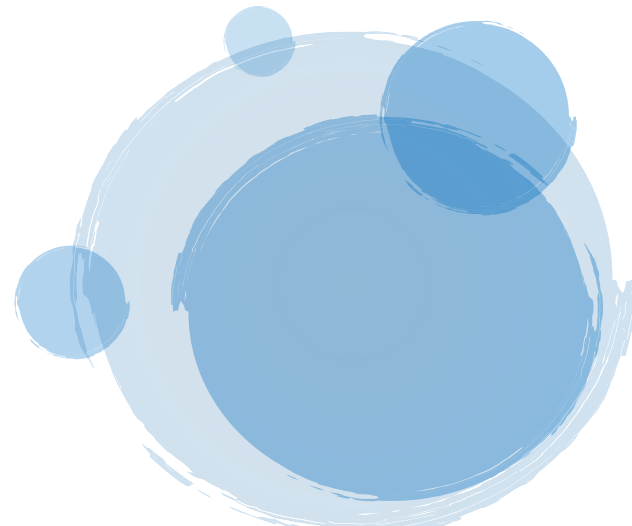
Mr. Mohamed Magdy
Executive Director
Esperanza, Egypt.

A Supply Chain Consultant with 24 years of experience in the Textile & readymade garments field. This long Journey started by obtaining the bachelor Engineering Degree in Textiles, then a significant career in Merchandising in reputed Garment Manufacturers in Egypt, in addition to successful journey as a senior in Macy's Egypt office. Magdy has a proven record of accomplishment of accelerating revenue growth, cost savings and market development. Proven ability to drive corporates to revenue growth with a high customer comfort level.



Mr. Nayef Stetieh
Former Minister of Labour
Founder Business Development Center-BDC

With a vision to help boost the economic development of Jordan through empowering the Jordanian youth and entrepreneurs. An innovator in organizational development, he brings over 30 years' experience in creating, implementing and managing diverse and ambitious projects amid to fostering lasting jobs creation and enterprise development, and providing technical assistance services to youth, women, private sector companies, government officials and civil society organizations in Jordan and the Middle East.





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Mr. Sangheon Lee

*Director of Employment Department
International Labour Organization*

Sangheon LEE is the Director of the Employment, Job Creation and Livelihoods Department (EMPLOYMENT), which leads the ILO's action for promoting full and productive employment by developing integrated employment, development and skills policies. He is currently leading the ILO's work in monitoring the labour market impacts of multiple crises (*ILO Monitor on the World of Work*)

Prior to becoming the Director of EMPLOYMENT, he was the Special Adviser to the Deputy Director-General for Policy on Economic and Social Issues (2014-18), and an acting director for Research Department (17-18).

