

## CV Kristel Van der Elst

### Van der Elst, Kristel



Kristel Van der Elst is CEO of The Global Foresight Group.

She holds positions such as Director General at Policy Horizons Canada, Special Advisor to European Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič, and a fellow at the Center for Strategic Foresight of the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and a member of the World Economic Forum's Council on the Connected World.

Prior to this, she was Senior Director, Head of Strategic Foresight at the World Economic Forum.

Kristel has about 20 years of experience in forward-looking strategy and policy advisory roles. She works with senior executives and policy makers, providing the insights, resources, and processes to help them turn long-term strategic thinking into actions and impacts.

Kristel holds an MBA from the Yale School of Management, a Masters in Development Cooperation from the University of Ghent, and a Masters in Commercial Engineering from the Free University of Brussels. She is a Fulbright Scholar and a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar. She is a former visiting professor at the College of Europe.

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Date of birth	5 July 1973
Nationality	Belgian
Languages	English, French, Dutch

### Current activities

**Co-Founder & CEO, The Global Foresight Group** Geneva, Switzerland

The Global Foresight Group is a global research, development and consulting firm specialized in Strategic Foresight. We provide the insights, resources, and processes to help you turn long-term strategic thinking into actions and impacts.

*Clients include* WTO, European Parliament, UCB, UN, USAID, UNICEF, Red Cross, Vlaamse Regering, European Commission, European Parliament.

**Director General, Policy Horizons Canada, Government of Canada** Ottawa, Canada  
Interchange Canada

Policy Horizons Canada is the federal government organization that conducts foresight. Its mandate is to help the Government of Canada develop future-oriented policy and programs that are more robust and resilient in the face of disruptive change on the horizon.

**Special Advisor to European Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič, European Commission** Brussels, Belgium

Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič is responsible for Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight at the European Commission.

**Fellow, Center for Strategic Foresight, US Government Accountability Office**  
Washington, DC, US

The Government Accountability Office, known as the investigative arm of Congress, is an independent, nonpartisan agency that exists to support Congress in meeting its constitutional responsibilities.

**Member of the World Economic Forum's Council on the Connected World, World Economic Forum** Geneva, Switzerland

The World Economic Forum is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation.

## Past activities

**Senior Director, Head of Strategic Foresight, World Economic Forum** 2005 - 2015  
Geneva, Switzerland

Prior to Senior Director: Director, Head of Scenario Planning team (2009), Associate Director, Head of Scenario Planning team, Global Leadership Fellow (2005)

**Senior Consultant, Greenwich Consulting (now EY)** 2002-2005  
Paris, France

**Sun Microsystems, Inc., Product Marketing Manager** 2001  
Cupertino, California, USA

**Marketing Manager Enterprise segment, Belgacom (now Proximus)** 1997-2000  
Brussels, Belgium

## Education

<b>World Economic Forum, Global Leadership Fellow</b>	2005-2008
Academic Partners: CEIBS, Columbia University, INSEAD, London Business School, Wharton School Geneva, Switzerland	
<b>Yale University, School of Management, MBA</b>	2000-2002
Fulbright Scholar; Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar; Teaching Assistant: Strategy, Finance New Haven, Connecticut, USA	
<b>University of Ghent, Postgraduate degree, Development Cooperation</b>	1996-1997
Ghent, Belgium	
<b>Free University of Brussels, Solvay School of Management, Master of Science degree in Commercial Engineering</b>	1990-1996
Brussels, Belgium	