



**Dr. h.c. Katharina VON SCHNURBEIN, M.St. MES**

Coordinator on combating antisemitism  
and fostering Jewish life



Dr. h.c. Katharina von Schnurbein was appointed the first European Commission Coordinator on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life in December 2015. Her mandate includes liaising closely with Jewish communities, Member States, EU institutions and international organisations as well as propose and implement policy to address antisemitism, foster Jewish life and ensure Holocaust remembrance.

Prior, she worked for five years as part of the advisory team to European Commission President José Manuel Barroso, responsible for the Dialogue with churches, religions and non-confessional organisations as well as civil society organisations and think tanks.

Katharina started working for the Commission in 2002, serving as press officer for the EU Delegation in Prague. With EU enlargement in 2004, she moved to Brussels as spokesperson on Employment, social affairs and equal opportunities for the Czech EU Commissioner Vladimír Špidla.

Her educational background includes undergraduate studies of Political Science and Slavonic Studies at Charles University in Prague and the University of Bonn, a Master of Slavonic Studies from Oxford University (1997) and a Master of European Studies from the Center for European Integration Studies in Bonn (1999). She spent the academic year 2017/18 as EU-Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence researching on measures to combat antisemitism across Europe.

For her work in the fight against antisemitism she has received several awards from European and American Jewish organisations as well as the Order of Merit at the level of Commander by the President of Romania in 2023 and an Honorary Doctorate from Ben Gurion University of the Negev in 2024.

Katharina is married and has four children. She speaks German, English, French, Dutch and Czech.