



European
Commission

Dubravka Šuica

Croatian nationality



European Commission Vice-President for Democracy and Demography

2019-present

Member of the European Parliament

Head of the Croatian European People's Party (EPP) delegation

2013-2019

Chair of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union) Committee on Foreign Affairs and European Integration

2012-present

Vice-President of EPP Women

2012-present

Vice-President of the HDZ

2012-2016

Vice-President of the Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

2004-2014

Member of the Croatian Parliament

2000-2011

Mayor of Dubrovnik

2001-2009

Councilor, Dubrovnik City Council

2009-2015, 1997-1998

Councilor, Dubrovnik-Neretva County Assembly

2006-2009, 1998-2001

Lecturer of German, American College of Management and Technology, Dubrovnik

1998-2000



Director, 'Gimnazija Dubrovnik' (Secondary School), Dubrovnik

1996-2000



Lecturer of English (Maritime Faculty, Dubrovnik, then Dubrovnik Polytechnic)

1992-2000



English and German language teacher

1981-1992



**Education: Professor of English language and literature and German language,
Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb**

1981

Aleksandra Dulkiewicz – Mayor of Gdansk



Born July 10, 1979, in Gdańsk – Polish local government activist and lawyer, deputy mayor of Gdańsk for economic policy (2017–2019) and the city’s mayor since 11 March 2019.

Ms Dulkiewicz studied law at the University of Gdańsk (2006) and Paris Lodron University in Salzburg (2004–2005). She was active even in primary school and became politically involved before she had the right to vote herself, supporting Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz’s election campaign for Polish president (1995). It was here that she encountered the Young Conservatives Association.

She was a volunteer in Gdański Areopag, a forum for the exchange of ideas which for several years had a strong influence on the intellectual landscape of Gdańsk (2000–2012). She started earning her political stripes as assistant to Gdańsk mayor Paweł Adamowicz (2006). She took part in Gdańsk’s preparations for the 2012 UEFA European Championship (2008–2009) and worked at the European Solidarity Centre (2007–2014), before being employed at the Gdańsk Economic Development Agency, InvestGDA (2014–2017). She was twice elected deputy to the Council of the City of Gdańsk from the Civic Platform (PO) list.

In March 2017, the mayor of Gdańsk, Paweł Adamowicz, made her his deputy for economic policy. In the local elections in 2018, she was the head of the campaign staff for Adamowicz, who started out with the support of the “Everything for Gdańsk” association that he had founded. She suspended her membership in the Civic Platform (PO) party and was re-elected to the City Council, again taking up the office of deputy mayor.

After the assassination of mayor Adamowicz on January 13, 2019 she took on his duties as acting mayor of Gdańsk. As a result of by-election that took place on March 3, Aleksandra Dulkiewicz was elected city mayor winning over 80% of votes. She was sworn in on March 11, 2019 as the first woman mayor in the history of Gdańsk. As a successor to the late mayor’s political legacy she is determined to continue to work for Gdańsk with passionate commitment and deep concern for the most important values cherished by the people of Gdańsk: freedom and solidarity.

Shortly after being sworn in, Ms Dulkiewicz took up the initiative started by mayor Adamowicz – the organization of the 30th anniversary of the first free parliamentary elections in Poland (June 4, 1989). The jubilee events in Gdańsk in 2019, which attracted over 250 thousand people, were a manifestation of the attachment to the values of freedom and solidarity and a strong declaration to follow democratic principles. Gdańsk Declaration of Freedom and Solidarity was signed to this effect.

Recently Gdańsk has been pronounced a laureate of the prestigious Princess of Asturias Award for Concord 2019. The jury recognized Gdansk as “both a historic and present-day symbol of the daring fight for civil liberties at a crucial spot where the spirit of Europe manages to be reborn time and again against intolerance and oppression.” The application process was started by Mr Adamowicz and then continued by Ms Dulkiewicz.

Similarly to mayor Adamowicz, Ms Dulkiewicz stresses the importance of local government in creating national policy and is committed to defending its status now seriously threatened by the central government.

She is a member of the board of the Union of Polish Metropolises which promotes cooperation between the biggest cities in Poland and creates a platform for joint initiatives endorsing the role of local governments in national policy.

Most recently, she has been involved in defending the status of Westplatte peninsula – a very important symbol not only for Gdańsk and Poland but also for the whole global community and a place where the authorities of Gdańsk organize the commemorative ceremony of the anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War on September 1, each year since 1999 – the initiative also started by mayor Adamowicz.

Mayor Dulkiewicz joined the Committee of the Regions on 26th January 2020 and has been a member of two commissions: Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX) and Commission for Economic Policy (ECON).

On 23rd January Aleksandra Dulkiewicz was nominated one of the Executive Presidents of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

Aleksandra Dulkiewicz is a single mother with a daughter, Zosia.

Matthias Declercq – Mayor of Ghent



Mayor De Clercq started his political career in the Liberal Flemish Student Association Ghent as committee member, political secretary and chairman. Since 2002, he is a core member of the liberal think tank Liberales.

Until 2008, Mathias De Clercq was working as apprentice-lawyer at the Bar of Ghent. At the municipal elections of 2006, he became Deputy Mayor of Economy, Youth, Work and the Self-Employed. In December 2007, he took the oath in the Chamber of Representatives. Since September 2009, he was Senior Deputy Mayor of the City of Ghent and Deputy Mayor of Economy, Youth and the Self-Employed. Following the municipal elections of 2012, Mathias De Clercq became Senior Deputy Mayor and was given the competences of the Port, Economy and Enterprise. From 2014 until the beginning of 2019 he was a representative in the Flemish parliament. In January 2019 Mathias De Clercq became Mayor of the City of Ghent.

Emil Boc – Mayor of Cluj-Napoca

[...]

Hermano Sanches Ruivo – Deputy Mayor of Paris

[...]

Lutz Kinkel – Managing Director at the Centre for European Press & Media Freedom



Lutz represents and manages the ECPMF. Lutz worked in German press for more than 20 years, giving special focus to the areas of politics and media. He was an editor at Spiegel-Online and tagesschau.de and more recently head of the stern-online office in Berlin. He did his Masters degree at Hamburg University in history, politics and economics. His dissertation examines the life of Nazi film director Leni Riefenstahl. Lutz teaches journalism at the Akademie für Publizistik, Hamburg.