

Dr H.P.M. (Ben) Knapen

Place of residence Amsterdam
 Date of birth 06 January 1951
 Nationality Dutch

Professional history

Sept. 2021 – mid Jan 2022 Interim Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

2019 – June 2023 Parliamentary leader of the Christen-Democratisch Appèl (CDA), Senate (1st Chamber)

2015 – June 2023 Member of the Dutch Senate (1st Chamber) for the Christian-Democrat Appèl (CDA) party

2014 Chairman of the Christen-Democratisch Appèl (CDA) Programme Committee during the European Parliament elections

2013 – 2016 Director General of the European Investment Bank

2010 – 2012 State Secretary for Foreign Affairs – European Affairs and Development Cooperation

2008 – 2010 Member of the Scientific Council for Government Policy, Kingdom of the Netherlands

2008 – 2010 Endowed Professor for Media and Quality at the Radboud University, Nijmegen, Kingdom of the Netherlands

1999 – 2006 Member of the Board (Book Division) of PCM Publishers (now part of De Persgroep Nederland), Kingdom of the Netherlands

2006 – 2008 and 1997 – 1999 Editorial and correspondent activities for the NRC Handelsblad Internationaal, Kingdom of the Netherlands

Education

Advanced studies, financial and operational accounting, Catholic University of Tilburg, Kingdom of the Netherlands

PhD (Arts), Catholic University of Nijmegen, Kingdom of the Netherlands

Scholarship, International Economics, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Medford/Somerville, USA

Studies and PhD, Modern History, Catholic University of Nijmegen, Kingdom of the Netherlands

Mandates

Statutory supervisory boards and similar bodies:

- Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Leiden Asia Centre
- Chairman of the Foundation Novamedia Continuities
- Member of the Supervisory Board of ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD

Relevant knowledge, skills and professional experience

Knowledge of international relations, experience in working with international financial institutions, investor relations, marketing and communication, competence in negotiating with international financial and EU institutions.