

# EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Press and Public Affairs

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

### Lodewijk A.E. BRIËT

Lodewijk Briët is Minister-Counsellor for Political Affairs at the European Commission Delegation in Washington DC. Before taking up this position in September 1995 he was head of the Common Foreign and Security Policy Division in Brussels. He was responsible for the coordination and definition of the Commission's work in the field of external political relations, and the coordination and negotiation with the EU Member States.

From 1989 to 1991, Mr Briët was a member of the Cabinet of the President of the European Commission, Jacques Delors. Mr Briët advised President Delors on a wide variety of matters including Treaty infringements, environmental policy and other aspects of EU law and policy.

From October 1987 until 1989 he was head of unit in the European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market and Industrial Affairs. Previously he spent four years as head of the Trade Section of the European Commission's Delegation in Washington DC and a number of years as a member of the Cabinet of Frans Andriessen, former Vice President of the European Commission. He began his career with the Commission as a member of its External Relations department.

Before joining the Commission in 1978, Mr Briët was associated for three years with the Philadelphia law firm Dechert Price and Rhoads. Mr Briët has law degrees from the University of Pennsylvania in the USA and Leyden University in The Netherlands.

Mr Briët was born on January 11, 1951, in The Netherlands. He is married to Berit Pedersen, a Danish national. They have two children.

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#### Personal

Lodewijk A. E. Briët, Jr. Born: January 11, 1951

Nationality: Dutch

Male, married to Berit M. Hagedorn

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: Parents: van Somerenweg 46

3062 RJ Rotterdam

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#### **Employment and Education**

August 1983 - onwards

Assigned to the Washington D.C. delegation of the Commission of the European Communities (hereafter European Commission). Responsible for commercial policy and commercial relations between USA and EC.

January 1981 - July 1983

Member of the personal staff of the Dutch Member of the European Commission, Mr. Frans Andriessen, former Minister of Finance of the Netherlands. Special responsibility for anti-trust policy, fines, speechwriting for the Commissioner, press and parliamentary contacts on antitrust and related matters. Representation of Commissioner at high-level meetings.

December 1978 - December 1980

European Commission, Directorate General for External Relations (DG I). Main activities: common commercial policy and defense, international negotiations (GATT-MTN and bilateral), presiding meetings and investigations in connection with antidumping and countervailing duty matters, (re)drafting of EC legislation, speeches, etc.

August 1975 - November 1978

Associated with the law firm of Dechert Price and Rhoads, Philadelphia, U.S.A. Admitted as attorney-at-law to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in May 1976 after passing the Pennsylvania Bar Examination in February 1976. From June 1976 onwards assigned to the firm's offices in Brussels, Belgium. Main activities: international aspects of business law and taxation, U.S. and EEC anti-dumping, transfers of technology, employment matters.

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August 1974 - July 1975

University of Pennsylvania Law School (Fellowship). Received LL.M. degree in December 1975. Courses: corporation law, comparative corporation law, European Community law, civil procedure. Also attended various courses as auditor. Thesis subject; Directors and Officers Liabilities and Insurance; supervisor: Prof. Robert H. Mundheim, former General Counsel of the U.S. Treasury.

February 1974 - July 1974

Assistant professor at Leiden University, Faculty of Law, with Prof. mr N.E.H. van Esveld. Left to accept fellowship to spend year at University of Pennsylvania.

October 1973 - February 1974

Legal department of Royal Dutch/Shell (Netherlands). Started as "summer job", after 2 months definitive. But left in February 1974 on request of Prof. mr N.E.H. van Esveld, professor at Leiden University and supervisory director with Royal Dutch/Shell.

1970 - 1973

Law at Leiden University (Rijksuniversiteit Leiden) in the Netherlands. Obtained candidaats-degree (which is the equivalent of a Bachelor of Arts, B.A.) in 1971, doctoraals-degree (which is the equivalent of a Doctor of Laws, J.D. or LL.B.) in 1973. Studied in 3 instead of normal average of 5 1/2 years. In top 1%, grade average 8 out of 10 points.

1969 - 1970

- (a) Oxford, England; language courses in different colleges (Cambridge Proficiency in English Examination; also took Test of English as a Foreign Language (score: 656 out of 700)).
- (b) Université de Montpellier, Faculté des Lettres, Montpellier, France. Mainly French language courses to develop proficiency in French.

1963 - 1969

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Rotterdams Montessori Lyceum, final examination in June 1969, Gymnasium A, i.e. Greek, Latin, History, Mathematics, Physics and four modern languages. Always among top of class.

# Other activities

Active Leyden yearclub member. Yearclubs are part of student society (\* fraternity). I revised the articles of incorporation when "fraternity" and "sorority" merged. Interests: international relations, environment. Sports: skiing, sailing, skating. Translated and co-authored an American version of the revised Dutch Corporation Laws (Boek II Nieuw Burgerlijk Wetboek) for the American Commerce Clearing House (CCH) Reports. Various articles.

## Military Status

Indefinite deferment granted.