

**Sir Leon Brittan**  
European Commission Vice President

Sir Leon Brittan began his third term as Member of the European Commission in January 1995 and was appointed one of its two Vice Presidents in February. During his current five-year mandate, he will serve as EU External Relations Commissioner for North America and parts of Asia (including Japan and China), and is also responsible for the EU's common trade policy, relations with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). In his second term (1993-1994), he was EU Commissioner for External Economic Affairs and was the EU's chief negotiator in the Uruguay Round. He was first appointed to the Commission in 1989. In his first term (1989-1992) he was responsible for Competition and Financial Services.

Sir Leon, who was a Conservative member of the British Parliament from 1974-1988, held several Cabinet posts in the British Government. He served as Secretary of State for Industry and Trade (1985-1986), Home Secretary (1983-1985), Chief Secretary to the Treasury (1981-1983), and Minister of State at the Home Office (1979-1981).

Born in London on September 25, 1939, Sir Leon was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was a Henry Fellow at Yale University. In 1962, he was called to the Bar and in 1978 received the prestigious appointment as Queen's Counsel. In 1983, he became a member of the governing board of the Inner Temple, one of London's four unincorporated legal societies.

Sir Leon is married and has two stepdaughters. He was knighted in January 1989.

January 1995

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SIR LEON BRITTAN, QC

Date of birth : 25 September 1939

Married, two stepdaughters

Education : Haberdashers' Aske's School  
Trinity College, Cambridge (MA)  
Yale University (Henry Fellow)

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1962 Called to Bar, Inner Temple

1966 & 1970 Conservative candidate for North Kensington in the General Elections

1974-83 MP (Conservative) for Cleveland and Whitby  
1983-88 MP (Conservative) for Richmond, North Yorkshire

1974-76 Vice-Chairman, Employment Committee of Parliamentary Conservative Party

1976-78 Opposition Spokesman on Devolution and House of Commons Affairs

1978-79 Opposition Spokesman on Devolution and Employment

1979-81 Minister of State, Home Office

1981-83 Chief Secretary to the Treasury

1983-85 Home Secretary

1985-86 Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

1989- Vice-President, Commission of the European Communities

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1960 Chairman, Cambridge University Conservative Association

1960 President, Cambridge Union

1961 Debating tour of USA for Cambridge Union

1964-65 Chairman, Bow Group

1966-67 Editor of 'Crossbow'

1970-78 Member, Committee of the British Atlantic Group of Young Politicians

1970-78 Vice-Chairman, National Association of School Governors and Managers

1986-89 Chairman, Society of Conservative Lawyers

1988 Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Policy Studies Institute

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1978 Queen's Counsel

1981 Appointed member of the Privy Council

1983 Bencher of the Inner Temple

1989 Knighted

Honorary Degrees :

1990 D.C.L. (Newcastle)  
LL.D (Hull)

1991 Doctor honoris causa (Edinburgh)

1992 D.L. (Bradford)

1992 D.C.L. (Durham)

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Publications : The Conservative Opportunity (contributions)  
Millstones for the Sixties (jointly)  
Rough Justice  
Infancy and the Law  
How to Save your Schools  
A New Deal for Health Care (1988)  
Defence and Arms Control in a Changing Era (1988)  
"Europe : Our Sort of Community"  
(1989 Granada Guildhall Lecture)  
"Discussions on Policy" (1989)  
"Monetary Union : the issues and the impact" (1989)  
Hersch Lauterpacht Memorial Lectures, University of Cambridge (1990)  
"European Competition Policy" (1992)