

CV Sir Michael Leigh, PhD, KCMG

Sir Michael is senior advisor to the German Marshall Fund (GMF) in Brussels. His research and writing focus in particular on the future of the EU and the euro zone, enlargement and eastern partnership, particularly Ukraine, Turkey's relations with the EU and their common neighbourhood, Europe's response to political change in the Mediterranean and Middle East, and energy questions in the eastern Mediterranean. He also has an interest in the growing international role of China and Brazil.

He took on his current role after more than thirty years in EU institutions, including as a cabinet member for various Commissioners and as director in the Task Force for the EU Accession Negotiations. He contributed to the development of the single market and the common fisheries policy. Sir Michael became director-general for enlargement in 2006 after serving for three years as external relations deputy director-general with responsibility for European Neighbourhood Policy, relations with Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus, Central Asia, Middle East and the Mediterranean countries. Earlier he was chief negotiator with the Czech Republic and other candidate countries.