



EUROPEAN UNION

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EU High Representative/Vice President Catherine Ashton selects new Director for South and South East Asia

Catherine Ashton, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the Commission, today announced her intention to make a further senior appointment in the EEAS Headquarters. Ugo Astuto will become the new Director for South and South East Asia

Catherine Ashton said: *"I am delighted to appoint Mr Astuto to this important post in the External Action Service, which deals with a region of strategic importance to the Union. His experience and expertise will be a great asset to our work in South and South East Asia, and I look forward to working with him in this new role."*

Mr Astuto was most recently Deputy Italian Ambassador to India. His diplomatic career spans experience in the Italian Embassies in Nairobi and London (including as alternate Director for Italy in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development), and in the Italian Permanent Representation in Brussels.

P R E S S

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