

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS

Public Hearing
The role of the European Investment Bank
in the EU response to the COVID-19 outbreak
and the post-crisis recovery
Brussels, Room: Altiero Spinelli (5G-3)
26 May 2020, 10.00 - 12.00

SPEAKERS

Andrew McDowell
Vice President of the EIB



Andrew McDowell is one of the eight Vice Presidents of the EIB who, together with President Werner Hoyer, form the Management Committee that runs the bank on a day-to-day basis. Vice President McDowell has oversight of the Bank's treasury, economics and evaluation functions, as well as lending operations in energy and the bioeconomy. He was the Vice President responsible for the development of the EIB's new Energy Lending Policy that has committed the EIB to become the first major multilateral financing institution to end support for unabated fossil-fuel energy projects. He has also been an active participant in the European Battery Alliance, helping to align EIB's financing activities with the goal of building a sustainable battery value chain in Europe. He is also responsible for institutional relations with 10 European and 14 Asian countries. Prior to joining the EIB in 2016, Andrew was Chief Economic Adviser to Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny from 2011, co-ordinating the policies that supported Ireland's recovery from the economic crisis and sovereign bail-out, and Chief Economist of Forfas (from 2000), Ireland's industrial policy advisory body. He took undergraduate and post-graduate studies in business, economics, finance and international relations from University College Dublin and John Hopkins University.

Wilhelm Molterer

**Managing Director
of the EFSI**



Wilhelm Molterer has been Managing Director of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) since 1 November 2015. He holds a Master's degree in Social Economics from Johannes Kepler University in Linz, Austria. After his University studies, he became an Economic Adviser at the Austrian Farmers' Association and an Adviser to the Regional Minister of Agriculture in Upper Austria. He subsequently became an Economic Adviser to the Federal Minister of Agriculture. He then continued his career as Head of Cabinet of the Federal Minister of Agriculture and became Secretary-General of the Austrian Farmers Association. From 1990 to 1994, Wilhelm Molterer was a Member of the Austrian Federal Parliament and a Spokesperson for Agriculture and later became Secretary-General of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP). From 1994 to 2002, he was the Federal Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management in Austria. From 2007 to 2008 he was Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister of Finance, while in the period from 2008 to 2011 he acted as the Parliament's spokesperson for constitutional matters. From July 2011 until August 2015 he was Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and a member of its Management Committee, a permanent collegiate executive body.

Fabrizio Palermo
**CEO and General Manager
of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti S.p.A.**



Fabrizio Palermo, 48, is an Italian manager and businessman. Since 2018 he is the CEO and General Manager of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, the Italian Promotional Bank & Sovereign Fund. He holds a degree with honours in Economics from University of Rome "La Sapienza". Fabrizio started his career in Morgan Stanley's London offices, in the Investment Banking Division. In 1998 he joined McKinsey & Company, where he specialised in corporate restructuring, transformation and turnaround projects for large industrial and financial groups. In 2005, he moved to Fincantieri Group, where he worked for 9 years, holding several top executive positions including Business Development and Corporate Finance Director, reporting directly to the CEO, before taking on the appointment of Chief Financial Officer (2006–2014) and then of Deputy General Manager (2011–2014). In 2014 Fabrizio joined Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, where he served as Chief Financial Officer before being appointed CEO in 2018. Fabrizio is currently also CEO of CDP Reti S.p.A., a board member of Fincantieri S.p.A. and Co-

Chairman of the Italy-China Business Forum. Since 2017, he has been a member of the Italian-French Committee for the alliance project between Fincantieri and Naval Group, aiming at creating a European shipbuilding champion. Over his career, he has been Chairman of the Board of Directors of CDP Equity S.p.A., a board member of Fincantieri USA Inc., Vard Group AS, Vard Holdings Limited, Open Fiber S.p.A., Risparmio Holding S.p.A., Equam S.p.A. and a member of the Italian Recovery Fund Investors Committee and of the Fondo Atlante Investors Committee. <https://it.linkedin.com/in/fabrizio--palermo>

Xavier SOL
Director of the NGO
Coalition Counter Balance



Xavier Sol is the director of the NGO coalition Counter Balance since 2012. Counter Balance's mission is to make European public finance a key driver of the transition towards socially and environmentally sustainable and equitable societies. Xavier Sol is leading the campaigns of Counter Balance to make the European Investment Bank a more transparent, accountable and sustainable institution. He is also monitoring investment initiatives such as the Investment Plan for Europe or the EU External Investment Plan. Xavier Sol holds master degrees from Sciences Po Bordeaux (France) and the College of Europe (Bruges, Belgium) and is involved with civil society organisations since 2010.