

Katja Lehto-Komulainen

Born in Seinäjoki, Finland, 1969

Katja Lehto-Komulainen was elected as ETUC Deputy General Secretary by the Executive Committee in December 2016. She was nominated by the Council of Nordic Trade Unions (NFS), an umbrella organisation for the Nordic trade union movement representing 9 million employees.

Her areas of responsibility include employment policy and macroeconomic policy, economic governance and the European Semester. Katja also takes the lead in ETUC policy development on financial markets and taxation, and liaising with the European Parliament.

Katja graduated with a Finnish Master's Degree in law, and studied EU law at Stockholm University. In 1997, she began work as a lawyer for SAK in Finland, rising to the position of head of international affairs and dealing in particular with a wide range of EU issues and international labour standards. She has long experience working with the ETUC and ITUC, the Pan European Regional Council (PERC), the Baltic Sea Trade Union Network (BASTUN) and the ILO. She was a workers' delegate for Finland to the International Labour Conference in 2009-2015. Katja has been a member of the ITUC and PERC Women's Committees.

Work experience

January 2017 –

European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), Deputy General Secretary

2007 - 2016

Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK), European Secretary, then Senior Advisor on International Affairs and, in 2012, Head of International Affairs

2005 - 2007

Special Advisor to **Labour Minister Tarja Filatov** (during Finland's presidency of the EU in 2006)

1997 - 2005

Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK), lawyer

1996 - 1997

International Affairs Unit, Ministry of Labour, Government Secretary (lawyer)

1995 - 1996

Ministry of Labour, Personnel and Administrative Unit, lawyer

1995 - 1996

European Commission, Trainee in the Cabinet of Member of the European Commission Erkki Liikanen

1994 - 1995 **International Affairs Unit, Ministry of Labour, trainee**

Other experience

Trade union representative in high-level foreign policy talks led by President Mr. Sauli Niinistö, in Naantali, Finland, June 2015.

Workers' delegate for Finland to the International Labour Conference in 2009-2015, and

adviser to Workers' Delegates of Finland at five earlier International Labour Conferences, mainly active in the Application of Standards Committee.

Chair of a local French-Finnish friendship organisation Cercle franco-finlandais de Porvoo/Borgå in Porvoo, 2010-2012.

Interpreter at a Red Cross Refugee Centre during law studies in Rovaniemi, Finland.

Undertook French-language training for youth organisers at the Centre Européen de la Jeunesse of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, 1989, and the Foyer International d'Accueil in Paris, 1990. Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Mérite 2015 (France).

Education

Becoming a Leader, Executive Education Programme, Aalto University, Helsinki, Finland, 2015 (Diploma in English)

Studied Russian at the Russian Science and Cultural Centre in Helsinki, Finland, 2008-2010, and at the State University of St. Petersburg, Russia, October 2007.

Master's Degree in Law, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi, Finland, 1994

Languages

Finnish: mother tongue

English: fluent

French: fluent

Swedish: fluent

Russian: intermediate

Spanish: elementary