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Marc Perrin de Brichambaut is the Secretary General of the OSCE since June 2005. He had previously held a number of senior positions in the French Administration, as well as in international organizations as a member of the Conseil d'Etat. He studied at France's Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris, from where he graduated in 1974. Ambassador de Brichambaut started his career at the Conseil d'Etat, first as an administrative judge, later as Conseiller d'Etat. In 1978, he was posted to New York to work as a Special Assistant to the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs. He returned to Paris in 1981, where he became an adviser to French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson. In 1983 and 1984 he was the Chief of Staff to Roland Dumas, then the Minister of European Affairs. When Mr Dumas became Foreign Minister, Ambassador de Brichambaut continued to serve as his Chief of Staff. In 1986, he moved to New York, as Cultural Counsellor for the French Embassy, returning to Paris in 1988 as Principal Adviser to Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement. From 1991 to 1994, he represented France as Head of Delegation at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) in Vienna, which in due course became the OSCE. From 1994 to 1998, he headed the French Foreign Ministry's Legal Division. His most recent post prior to his appointment as OSCE Secretary General was as Director for Strategic Affairs at the French Defence Ministry from 1998.

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Narcís Serra has been the President of CIDOB since 2000. During this time he has been the driving force behind the creation of the Barcelona Institute for International Studies (IBEI). In 1977 he was appointed Catalan Minister of Town and Country Planning and Public Works in the Government of the Generalitat chaired by Josep Tarradellas, and in April 1979, he was elected Mayor of Barcelona. In 1982, he was appointed Spanish Minister of Defence in the Government of Felipe González, and in 1991, Vice Prime Minister of the Spanish Government. From 1986 until 2004, Narcís Serra was member of the Spanish Parliament representing the province of Barcelona. His main areas of interest are the development of foreign policy, the relationship between the Armed Forces and civil
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Lord Skidelsky is Emeritus Professor of Political Economy at the University of Warwick. His three volume biography of the economist John Maynard Keynes (1983, 1992, 2000) received numerous prizes, including the Lionel Gelber Prize for International Relations and the Council on Foreign Relations Prize for International Relations. He is the author of the The World After Communism (1995) (American edition called The Road from Serfdom). He was made a life peer in 1991, and was elected Fellow of the British Academy in 1994. Robert Skidelsky was a boarder at Brighton College. He went on to read history at Jesus College, Oxford, and from 1961 to 1969, he was successively research student, senior student, and research fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford. In 1967, he published his first book, Politicians and the Slump, Labour Government of 1929-31, based on his D.Phil dissertation. Robert Skidelsky was an Associate Professor at the School of Advanced International Studies, John Hopkins University and in 1978 he was appointed Professor of International Studies at the University of Warwick, where he has since remained, though joining the Economics Department as Professor Political Economy in 1990. He was a founder member of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) and a chairman of the Social Market Foundation. He was made Chief Opposition Spokesman in the Lords, first for Culture, then for Treasury Affairs (1997-9), but he was sacked by the then Conservative party leader, William Hague, for publicly opposing NATO’s bombing of Kosovo. In 2001, he left the Conservative Party for the cross benches. Since 2003, he has been a non-executive director of the mutual fund manager, Janus Capital. In 2008, he was made a non-executive director of Sistema, the Russian telecommunications giant. He is a director of the Moscow School of Political Studies and founder and executive secretary of the UK/Russia Round Table. Since 2002, he has been chairman of the Centre for Global Studies. He is also a trustee of the Manhattan Institute.

Javier Solana is the Secretary General of the Council of the EU and EU High Representative for the CFSP. Born in Madrid he holds a Doctorate in physics. He was a Fulbright scholar at several American universities. Javier Solana is a Professor of solid-state physics at Complutense University of Madrid and the author of over thirty publications in the field. Solana started his political career in 1964 when he joined Spanish Socialist Party. In 1977 he became a member of Parliament. Between 1982 and 1995 he occupied the posts of the Minister for Culture, Minister for Education and Science
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