



Johannes Hahn

Austria (EPP)

Background

Johannes is a Conservative (EPP, Austrian People's Party, ÖVP) and the current Commissioner of European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations (temporarily in charge of Regional Policy) who returns for a 3rd term. He held the Regional policy portfolio in the Barroso II Commission (2010-2014)

Until 2010, he was the Austrian Federal Minister for Science and Research. He was a member of the City Council of Vienna until 2003. He also served as Executive Director of the Austrian People's Party. Prior to entering politics, he held a variety of positions in the Austrian industrial sector and served as Secretary General of the Austrian Managers' Association between 1987 and 1989. He had a seat on the Supervisory Board of Novomatic, an on-line gaming company.

Political Experience

- 2008–2009 entrusted with the management of the Federal Ministry of Justice
- 2007–2010 Federal Minister for Science and Research
- 1996–2007 Member of the Vienna State Parliament and Member of the Vienna Municipal Council
- 2003–2007 City Council at Vienna Municipal Council
- 2005 State Party Chairman of the ÖVP Vienna
- 2004 Managing State Party Chairman of the ÖVP Vienna
- 1996–2006 District Party Chairman of the ÖVP Vienna (4th district)
- Well-established politician in the Austrian People's Party, holding different functions since the 1990s

Professional background

- 1985–1992 Management functions in various areas of the Austrian industry and economy

Education

- Doctorate in Philosophy, University of Vienna (Dr. phil. 1987)
- 1982 Studies of Philosophy, Journalism and German Studies
- 1976 Law studies, University of Vienna (no degree)

EU Priorities

Hahn implemented an ambitious and comprehensive reform of EU Regional Policy, linking it closer with EU economic governance and macro-economic conditions; introducing clearly defined conditions; and establishing a better evaluation system. Despite cuts in the overall EU budget, Hahn succeeded to keep the high level of financial support for strategic investments in the new period (2014-2020): Funding for regional and cohesion policy in 2014-2020 amounts to 351,8 billion Euro.

Other Insights

One of Hahn's aims during his time as a Science Minister has been to raise public awareness of the great number of successful women in science and research in Austria by means of the so-called "Visibility Measures" which were launched in 2008