



Elisa Ferreira

Portugal (S&D)

Background

The nomination of Elisa Ferreira as European Commissioner candidate has been very well received in Portugal and in Brussels. A widely respected economist and lecturer, currently Vice Governor of the Bank of Portugal, 63 years old Elisa Ferreira entered politics by the hand of now UN Secretary General António Guterres, serving in his socialist Cabinet as Minister of Environment (1995-1999) and as Minister for Planning (1999-2001). She later became Member of Parliament in Portugal and for three terms Member of the European Parliament (MEP), from 2004 to 2016, dealing mainly with economic and monetary affairs. She is seen as a committed European, driven by strong convictions and a desire to improve people's lives, hardworking but unassuming and open to dialogue.

She studied Economics in the University of Porto and has a PhD from the University of Reading. She has lectured in Economics in Porto since 1977 and worked on regional development and water resources management until she entered politics at the age of 40, as a Minister of Environment. Later, as Minister for Planning, she negotiated and oversaw the Structural Funds package for Portugal.

The name of Elisa Ferreira came out recently as a Portuguese nominee for the European Commission, because of the request for gender parity amongst candidates. It was broadly welcomed by government and opposition in Portugal and by many in Brussels who recall her period as a Minister and MEP. She is a relevant candidate for the portfolio of Economic and Financial Affairs, which would be in line with Portugal's strategy and interest in ensuring a more social focus when applying budget austerity programmes and a lenient interpretation of the budgetary discipline criteria laid down in the Treaty. Nevertheless, her profile and

experience will also allow her to cover files dealing with budgetary and tax policy matters, regional policy and structural funds, or even environment.

Political Experience

Activities in the European Parliament

Member of the European Parliament (2004-2016). Member of the Committee of Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) throughout the whole period, and coordinator (spokesperson) for the Socialists and Democrats Parliamentary Group for most of this period. Member of the First and Second Special Committees on Tax Rulings and Other Measures Similar in Nature or Effect (TAXE), of the Financial Assistance Working Group (to euro area countries), of the Special Committee on the Financial, Economic and Social Crisis and of the Special Committee on the policy challenges and budgetary resources for a sustainable European Union.

Rapporteur of the European Parliament's position on various legislative proposals related to the financial system as well as on several economic, budgetary and tax policy matters. Rapporteur, inter alia, of the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing uniform rules and a uniform procedure for the resolution of credit institutions and certain investment firms in the framework of the Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) and a Single Resolution Fund (SRF) (2014), two regulations of the "Two Pack" and the "Six Pack" – Common provisions for monitoring and assessing draft budgetary plans and ensuring the correction of excessive deficit of the Member States in the euro area (2012), and Prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances (2011), on Tax Rulings and other measures similar in nature or effect (2015) and on Cross-border crisis management in the banking sector (2010). Member of the Portuguese Parliament - Assembleia da República - (2002-2004), Minister for Planning in the 14th Constitutional Government (1999-2002) and Minister for the Environment in the 13th Constitutional Government (1995-1999).