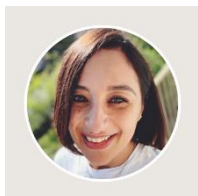




EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS

Directorate A – Justice Policies
Unit A.2 – Civil Justice

Subject: Biography – Dr. Angele Sears-Debono



Angele Sears Debono is a seasoned lawyer and policy officer at the European Commission (DG Justice and Consumers), in the Civil Justice Policy Unit in the Directorate General Justice and Consumers, at the European Commission.

She joined the European Union institutions in 2004 working in the European Court of Auditors, the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, and joined the European Commission in 2019. Based in Brussels, she specialises in international family law, child rights, and private international law, representing the EU in global negotiations. She collaborates with other EU institutions (European Parliament and the Council), professional bodies and international organisations including the United Nations, UNIDROIT, the Council of Europe, and the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH). She actively participates in European and international working and expert groups representing the Union in civil judicial cooperation matters. She played a critical role in the negotiation of the UN convention on the international effects of judicial sale of ships in UNCITRAL as the EU's chief negotiator.

With over 20 years of experience, she has developed a strong expertise in cross-border family law and private international law, consistently working at high levels within international organisations and government institutions, including during the Maltese Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2017, chairing the Civil Law Working Group and the Fundamental Human Rights Working Group spearheading the negotiations of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention on preventing violence and combating violence against women and domestic violence which led to the signature of the European Union.

Angele graduated from the University of Malta with a Bachelor of Laws and International Relations in 2000 and obtained a Diploma of Notary Public in 2001. She earned her Doctor of Laws degree in 2003 and was called to the Bar in 2004. Her doctoral thesis focused on Private International law and addressed the topic of "Part V of Act II of 1996: International Commercial Arbitration in Malta – a model for the drafting of international arbitration in Malta." In 2019, she earned a diploma in Blockchain Strategy from the University of Oxford, Saïd Business School.