



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS



Karel Pinxten

Born in Overpelt, Belgium, in 1952.

Education:

Master's degree in Economics (M. Phil.) from University of Cambridge (UK) as a British Council scholar.

Doctorandus in Economics, specialising in public finance and monetary economics, from the Catholic University of Leuven.

Candidate degree in Law from Antwerp University.

Professional experience:

From 1977 to 1978, Karel Pinxten worked as a research assistant in public finance at the Centre for Economic Studies at the Catholic University of Leuven.

In 1978, he completed a six-month study trip to Japan as a Laureate of the Prize of the Belgian Foreign Trade Minister.

He was an auditor at the Belgian Court of Auditors from 1980 until he joined the Belgian government in 1994. He was on secondment from the Belgian Court of Auditors between 1984 and 1994. He was Mayor of Overpelt from 1983 until 2006.

Between 1984 and 1985, Mr Pinxten was an adviser in the private office of the Belgian Deputy Prime Minister.

From 1985 to 1989, he was an adviser in the private office of the Belgian Finance Minister.

As an MEP from 1989 to 1991, he sat on the European Parliament's Committee on Budgets and Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.

Between 1991 and 1994, Mr Pinxten was an MP in the Belgian Federal Parliament and sat on its Finance Committee.

He was appointed Minister of Defence from 1994 to 1995 and Minister of Agriculture and SMEs from 1995 to 1999.

During his term as an MP in the Belgian Federal Parliament from 1999 to 2006, Mr Pinxten sat on the Finance and Foreign Affairs Committees. In 2004, he was elected Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, remaining in this position until he joined the European Court of Auditors.

Mr Pinxten became a Member of the European Court of Auditors on 1 March 2006, and was appointed to Audit Group III "External Actions".

Following the reorganisation of the Court, Mr Pinxten has been a Member of Chamber III “External Actions” since 1 June 2010.

Since April 2011, Mr Pinxten has been the Dean of Chamber III “External Actions” and a Member of the Administrative Committee.

In 2015, HRH King Philippe of Belgium bestowed the title of Baron on Mr Pinxten.

Publications:

Karel Pinxten has published on topics relating to budgetary policy, monetary policy and foreign trade.