

# MONICA FRASSONI



DEDICATED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH  
DEMOCRACY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Italian, born in Veracruz, Mexico. Proven leader with 40 years of experience in European and climate politics. Comfortable in 6 languages, natural networker and well connected in political, institutional, business, NGO, media and academic circles in Brussels and at international level. Broad management experience in international roles.

## Professional experience

- 2010 - present: **Co-founder and President of the European Alliance to Save Energy**, a multi-stakeholder, business-led advocacy organization promoting strong and ambitious financing and regulation on energy efficiency, with the aim to achieve decarbonization of the economy and effective action on the climate crisis. We crucially contributed to impose the principle of “Energy Efficiency first” as a main feature in the EU energy strategy.
- 2013 - present: **President of the European Centre for Electoral Support**. ECES is a not-for-profit private foundation, headquartered in Brussels, which aims at promoting democratic development through the provision of advisory services and operational support to electoral stakeholders throughout the electoral cycle, to favor transparent, cost-effective and credible electoral processes. From 2012 to the present day, ECES has signed over 100 contracts to support 50 countries mostly with the European Commission. My most intensive personal involvement has been in Madagascar, Jordan, Nigeria, and more recently Ethiopia and Bolivia.
- 2021 - present: **Senior advisor at TENEO**, the global CEO advisory firm. Working exclusively with the CEOs and senior executives of the world's leading companies, Teneo provides strategic counsel across their full range of key objectives and issues.
- 2009 - 2019: **Co-Chair of the European Green Party** (EGP) re-elected in 2012 and 2015. The EGP was established in 2004 in Rome as the first European party with a fully integrated supranational political structure and leadership. It is composed of 40 national parties, from 38 European countries.
- 1999 - 2009: **Member of the European Parliament (Greens/EFA)**: elected in 1999 on behalf of the French-speaking Belgian Green Party Ecolo, as the first non-Belgian representative and the first Italian national to be elected to a political office outside Italy. Re-elected in 2004 on behalf of the Italian Green Party (Federazione dei Verdi).
  - Active in environment policy, EU constitutional and reform issues, human rights, relations with Latin America (notably Mercosur trade negotiations) and in the enlargement process of the EU (Cyprus).
  - Worked closely with civil society organizations and platforms to support their work at European level, notably on waste, industrial pollution, infrastructure, access to justice.
  - 2002-2009: **Co-President of the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament**, leading a group of 42 MEPs supported by 45 members of staff.
  - 2003 - 2009: **Vice-Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank**, an innovative platform set up to improve transparency on the Bank's activities and priorities and promote parliamentary and civil society scrutiny. In that capacity I led the global parliamentary delegations which visited Vietnam (2005) and Mozambique (2007).
  - 2006: appointed by Benita Ferrero-Waldner (European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighborhood Policy), as **Chief of the EU Election observation mission** to Bolivia for the Constituent Assembly Elections in July, and to Venezuela for the presidential elections in December. Each mission was composed of about 150 observers from all 25 EU member states and delivered specific recommendations on possible reforms and improvements of the electoral process.

- 2007: **Greens/EFA Candidate for the presidency of the European Parliament**, securing support across the House (two-thirds of which came from MEPs outside the Green/EFA group).
- 1990-1999: **Policy advisor for the Greens/EFA parliamentary group** in charge of constitutional matters, rule of law procedures and immunities. In that capacity, I was actively involved in the implementation of the European Parliament's new legislative competences, subsequent to the institutional reforms introduced in the Treaties of Maastricht, Amsterdam and Nice and in related negotiations with other EU institutions.
- 1991-1993: **President of the European Coordinating Bureau of Youth NGOs**, Brussels, Belgium.
- 1987-1989: **Secretary General of the Young European Federalists**, Brussels, Belgium.

## Worth mentioning:

Regular speaker and lecturer in academic fora and public events, focusing on sustainable energy and energy savings, green transformation of the global economy and society to fight exclusion and climate change, democracy and participation of civil society, notably women and youth, in decision-making at all levels.

- 2019: delivered a special Course on “Lobbies and groups of interest in the EU” at the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa, Italy.
- 2018/2023: delivered a series of lectures on EU institutions and environmental law at Deusto University, Bilbao, Spain; Oviedo, Spain; Carlos III University, Madrid
- 2020: included among the “100 women who change the world” by D the magazine of Repubblica in collaboration with Women Forum for the Economy and Society.
- 2018 and 2019: appointed **Special Ambassador** of the EU Sustainable Energy Week
- 2016: named by EURACTIV as one of the **top 40 influencers in EU energy efficiency policy** and Energy Union related issues.
- 2010: nominated by Foreign Policy Magazine as one of the **Top 100 “Global Thinkers”**, for “taking Green mainstream” together with Marina Silva, Renate Kunast and Cecile Duflot.
- 2020-2024: **President of the local Council of Ixelles, Brussels region**
- 2001 - present: Member of the Board of Trustees of "Friends of Europe", a leading think tank that works to promote a more inclusive, sustainable and forward-looking Europe.

## Articles and publications

I write regularly on and contribute opinion pieces to discussions on EU affairs, energy and industrial policy, migration, women rights, climate and Italian politics. I blog at Il Fatto Quotidiano, The Huffington Post and Linkiesta and contribute regularly to different newspaper and websites. I also contributed to several books over the last years. Among the most significant and recent ones:

- 2018: I coordinated and co-authored the book “Europee: dieci donne che fanno l'Europa” (“Europeans, ten women who make Europe”) published by Textus Edizioni, of which I direct the series “Le vie da percorrere”.
- 2017: “Mecanismos de participación ciudadana, una experiencia global” (“Mechanisms of citizen participation, a global experience”), edited by Lic. Gema Morales Martinez and Gerardo Romeo Altamirano, chapter on the experiences of direct democracy in Italy and the EU.
- 2016: “Accountability, Transparency and Democracy in the Functioning of Bretton Woods Institutions”, edited by Prof. Elena Sciso, chapter “Two concrete experiences”.
- 2014: “Un'altra Europa. Sostenibile, democratica, paritaria, solidale” (“Another Europe, sustainable, democratic, equal”), edited by Silvia Zamboni, chapter on the challenges of climate change and energy policy.

## Education

1989: Political Sciences graduate from the University of Florence “**Cesare Alfieri**”. My final thesis dealt with political and economic integration aspects of EU/Latin America relations.

## Languages

**Italian**, native; **Spanish, English, French** fluent; **German, Portuguese**: advanced



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