



EMMA BONINO

Emma Bonino is a Member of Parliament and Minister for International Trade and European Affairs.

She is also a Board Member of the International Crisis Group (ICG) and a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the American University of Cairo.

She was born in Bra (Cuneo) on the 9th of March 1948.

She graduated in Modern Languages at the Bocconi University of Milan in 1972.

First elected to the Italian Chamber of Deputies in 1976, she was re-elected at every subsequent election (1979, 1983, 1987, 1992, 1994), except when she was appointed European Commissioner.

She chaired the Parliamentary Group of the Radical Party, besides of being Member of the Presidential Bureau of the Italian Parliament.

Elected to the European Parliament in 1979, she was re-elected in 1984, 1999 and in 2004.

She was President (1991-1993) and Secretary (1993-1993) of the Transnational Radical Party.

In 1994 she was appointed European Commissioner responsible for Consumer Policy, Fisheries and the European Community Humanitarian Office.

In 1997, her field of competence was widened in order to include Consumer Health Protection as well as Food Safety.

In 2002, she was appointed Head of the Italian Delegation to the Inter-governmental Conference of the Communities of Democracies in Seoul. In 2005, she was also appointed Head of the Italian Delegation to its Third Ministerial Conference in Santiago del Chile.

Furthermore, she was appointed EU Head of Delegation to the Mission of Electoral Observers in Ecuador (2002) and in Afghanistan (2005).

International Campaigns

In 1978 she founded and chaired the association “Food and Disarmament International”, which then launched a campaign against world hunger based on the “Manifesto of Nobel Prize Winners”.

In 1987 she was promoter of an international campaign which supported civil and political rights in Eastern Europe.

She is a founder of the NGOs No Peace Without Justice and Hands Off Cain.

In 1997, she promoted the international campaign “A flower for the women of Kabul” in order to combat discrimination against women and, in particular, to give Afghani women access to humanitarian aid.

Since 2000, she is among the promoters of an international campaign for the eradication of female genital mutilation (FGM) and for the ratification of the Maputo Protocol by the Countries of the African Union.

In December 2001, she was promoter of the international campaign for the inclusion of women in the interim Government of Afghanistan.

Awards

In 1995 she was awarded the “Gran Cruz de la Orden de Mayo” by the Argentina President.

In 1996 she was named “European Personality of the Year” by the French Catholic weekly “La vie”.

In 1997 she was named “European Communicator of the Year” by the British weekly “PR Week”.

IN 1998 she was awarded the “Premio Principe de Asturias” for international cooperation by H.E. Prince Felipe of Spain.

In 2002, she received the honour of the “Order of the Prince Branimir” by the President of Croatia “for her contribution to the independence of Croatia and for the promotion of Democracy”.

In 2002 she was awarded the “Gonfalone d’Argento” by the Tuscany Region for her activity dedicated to the promotion of Human Rights and fight against death penalty.

In 2003, she was awarded the “Premio Presidente della Repubblica” for her commitment to the promotion of Human and Civil Rights worldwide.

She was also awarded the “Premio Campione 2003” for activities related to the Integration Issue.

In 2004, she was awarded the “Prix Femmes d’Europe 2004” for Italy as well as the “Open Society Prize 2004”.

On the 19th of June 2005, she was awarded the “Premio Galileo 2000” for her contribution to international peace.