

Mrs Paula Kokkonen, RTD, born in 1946, has occupied leading positions within health care and social services, e.g. As Director-General in the Finnish National Board of Health periodically during 1984-1990, Director General in the Finnish National Agency for Welfare and Health during 1991-1992 and in the Finnish National Authority for Medicolegal Affairs during 1992-2004, Deputy Mayor responsible for Social Affairs and Public Health in Helsinki City during 2004-2011.

Mrs Kokkonen was a Member of the Finnish Parliament with the mandate of the National Coalition party during 1992-2003. She was the chairperson of the Committee of Constitutional Affairs during 2000-2003.

Mrs Kokkonen has served as an Extraordinary Justice of the Supreme Administrative Court of Finland in 1986. In her early career she worked in administrative positions at Helsinki University Central Hospital and at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Helsinki. Among her numerous and diverse positions of trust, a list amounting to over 70 titles, Mrs Kokkonen has played an active role in Finnish national and municipal politics and served in various advisory roles on boards of national and international organizations i.a. WHO, OSCE, Council of Europe. Her many recognitions include the highest honours and decorations in Finland. Mrs Kokkonen earned a Master of Laws degree in 1971 and was raised to the Bench in 1974.