

## Short Biography

### Jan KLEIJSSSEN



Jan Kleijssen was born in 1958 in Almelo (The Netherlands). He studied International Law at Utrecht State University (LLM in 1981) and International Affairs at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, Ottawa (MA 1982).

Jan joined the Council of Europe in 1983 as a Lawyer with the European Commission of Human Rights. He was Secretary to the Parliamentary Assembly's Political Affairs Committee from 1990 to 1999. Jan then served as Director of the Secretary General's Private Office and afterwards as Director and Special Advisor to the President of the Parliamentary Assembly.

Jan is currently the Director of Information Society and Action against Crime, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, of the Council of Europe.

His Directorate carries out standard-setting, monitoring and co-operation activities on a wide variety of issues, including:

#### Freedom of expression

- Data protection
- Internet governance
- Cybercrime
- Terrorism
- Criminal law
- Fighting corruption and money laundering

Jan was appointed Chair of the Council of Europe's Disciplinary Board in December 2015, and Council of Europe Internet Governance Coordinator in 2018.

In May 2018, the Secretary General appointed Jan to lead the work on reform proposals following the Elsinore Ministerial Session. They should serve as a basis for discussion at the next Ministerial Session in Helsinki in May 2019, mainly the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Council of Europe.

Besides his mother tongue Dutch, Jan is fully fluent in English, French, German and Italian.

He takes a great interest in history and cinema and is also a keen marathon runner.

#### Publications:

- [“Conseil de l'Europe et intelligence artificielle. Les droits de l'homme, l'Etat de droit et la démocratie face aux défis du développement et de l'utilisation de l'intelligence artificielle”](#), L'Observateur de Bruxelles n°115, February 2019
- “Cybercrime, evidence and territoriality: issues and options”, the Netherlands Yearbook of International Law, 2017
- [“Freedom of expression – does it need to be defined?”](#) on-line by 'Halsbury's Law Exchange' November 2015

- [“Una Internet Centrada en los Derechos Humanos y en las Personas – La perspectiva del Consejo de Europa”](#) Nueva Revista N° 145, November 2013
- “Protecting Internet freedom – A pressing challenge” in ‘Synergy Magazine’ of the European Law Students’ Association, n° 52 II-2012
- “Council of Europe standard-setting in the human rights field”, Netherlands Magazine for Human Rights/NJCM Bulletin, November/December 2010
- “No Peace without Human Rights: The Council of Europe and Conflict Prevention”, in: “The European Union and Conflict Prevention”, by T.M.C. Asser Press (Editors V. Kronenberger and J. Wouters) October 2004
- “International Human Rights Monitoring Mechanisms” Essays in honour of Jakob Th. Möller, The Raoul Wallenberg Institute Human Rights Library, volume 7 (2001)
- “Political monitoring of obligations within the Council of Europe”, Netherlands Magazine for Human Rights/NJCM Bulletin, July/August 1997
- Regular contributions (5-6 times per year) to ‘Nederlands Juristenblad’ (Netherlands Law Gazette) on Commission case-law (1983-1987)
- “International security and national interests: a conceptual analysis”, ‘International Spectator’, June 1983, vol XXXVIII, n° 6

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