

Press and Information

Court of Justice of the European Union PRESS RELEASE No 182/21

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Mr Koen Lenaerts is re-elected as President of the Court of Justice of the European Union

Following the partial replacement of the Members of the Court of Justice, ¹ Mr Koen Lenaerts has today been re-elected by his peers to serve as President of the Court of Justice of the European Union for the period from 8 October 2021 to 6 October 2024.

Curriculum vitae of Koen Lenaerts

Born 1954 in Mortsel (Belgium), Koen Lenaerts obtained a law degree in 1977 from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium) before continuing his studies at Harvard University, USA, where he obtained a Master of Laws in 1978 and a Master in Public Administration in 1979. Returning to the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, he became a Doctor of Laws in 1982.

It was at that same university that he started his professional career in 1979 as a lecturer before becoming a Professor of European Law in 1983. During his university career, he also taught at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) from 1984 to 1989 and as a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, USA, in 1989.

Mr Lenaerts began his career at the Court of Justice as a legal secretary to Judge René Joliet, a post which he held from 1984 to 1985 before working as a lawyer at the Brussels Bar from 1986 to 1989.

He was appointed as a Judge at the Court of First Instance of the European Communities on 25 September 1989, the date on which that newly created court was established. He served in that capacity for more than 14 years before being appointed as a Judge at the Court of Justice on 7 October 2003. He was elected by his peers to the office of President of the Chamber for two successive terms from 9 October 2006 to 8 October 2012 and subsequently to the office of Vice-President of the Court of Justice on 9 October 2012.

He was elected President of the Court of Justice on 8 October 2015 and has held that office since then.

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¹ See Press Release No° 181/21 of 7 October 2021.