



Jean-Claude Knebeler

A career foreign service officer, Mr. Knebeler was designated Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to the Russian Federation and took up residence in Moscow in August 2016.

From September 2012, Mr. Knebeler served as Consul General in New York City. Simultaneously, he acted as Executive Director of the Luxembourg Trade & Investment Office, covering the Eastern half of both the United States and Canada.

Until August 2012, Mr. Knebeler held the position of Director General for Trade & Investment at the Ministry of the Economy & Foreign Trade, based in Luxembourg. He provided advice to the Minister on international affairs, bilateral trade relations as well as on strategy and policy formulation relating to the global development of Luxembourg's economy. His responsibilities included overseeing and developing the network of Trade & Investment Offices, focusing mainly on emerging markets.

During this time, he held board positions at the Office du Ducoire (export credit agency) and Enovos International S.A. (energy production and distribution). Between October 2009 and September 2011, Mr. Knebeler was a director of Cargolux International Airlines S.A., representing the interests of the Government.

He was co-chairman of the Russia-Luxembourg sub-commission on bilateral economic relations and represented the interests of the Ministry of the Economy in Luxembourg@Shanghai 2010, the organization developing, building and running the Grand Duchy's pavilion at the Shanghai World Exhibition in 2010.

Mr. Knebeler started his career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he was an attaché in the Department for International Economic Relations. He focused on bilateral trade & aviation matters until 2004 when he was seconded to the Ministry of the Economy & Foreign Trade and promoted to Director of Foreign Trade with the task of building a trade & investment promotion capability.

He was educated at the London School of Economics & Political Science in Great Britain and the French senior civil service college, the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, gaining a BSc. in Government & Law and a postgraduate diploma in Public Administration. In the summer of 2012, Mr. Knebeler completed the Senior Managers in Government executive education program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Mr. Knebeler was awarded the Order of Civil Merit Adolph of Nassau (Knight 1st Class) by His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Luxembourg and honored with a number of decorations of foreign States.

He is a member of the Economic Club of New York, the Metropolitan Club of New York and the Cercle Munster of Luxembourg.

Jean-Claude Knebeler was born on 16th August 1977 in Luxembourg-City. He is married to Ms. Anna Balkhaeva. Besides his native Luxembourgish, he speaks French, German, English and has notions of Russian and Italian.