



Juris ŠTĀLMEISTARS

Ambassador

Director General

Economic Relations, Trade and
Development Cooperation
Directorate

Date of birth: 16 May, 1975

Nationality: Latvian

Since August 22, 2017, Mr **Juris ŠTĀLMEISTARS** is the Director General of the Economic Relations, Trade and Development Cooperation Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia.

Juris Štālmeistars held the post of Ambassador and the Deputy Permanent Representative of Latvia to the European Union (EU) from August 2011 until August 2017. In this capacity he was one of Latvia's main interlocutors with the Member States and the institutions in Brussels.

Juris Štālmeistars is a career diplomat, particularly experienced in economic relations and trade policies. He began his career in the Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in 1998 as a desk officer in Foreign Economic Policy Division.

In 2001, he became an attaché and acting Head of Foreign Economic Organizations division. Later that year, he was posted to Vilnius as an economic affairs attaché at the Latvian Embassy to the Republic of Lithuania.

He returned to Riga in 2004 where he entered the International Trade and Investment Division of the MFA, but soon was posted to the Permanent Representation of Latvia to the EU in Brussels as a second secretary responsible for transatlantic relations, trade policy and other regional groups.

Ambassador Štālmeistars' wide-ranging knowledge and expertise in economic and trade policies was appreciated in 2009 when he was appointed as a Director of Economic Relations and Development Cooperation Policy Department in Latvian MFA. Furthermore he has also served as Foreign Policy Advisor to the Latvian Prime Minister Valdis Dombrovskis' office and later on was appointed acting Director-General of the EU Directorate in Latvian MFA.

In 2011, Ambassador Štālmeistars returned to Brussels for the second time in order to become Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Latvia to the EU. Being Latvia's representative in the Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER I) meetings he had the challenging task of defending interests of Latvia in such crucial domains as internal market, competitiveness, transport, energy, telecommunications, agriculture, fisheries, environment, employment and social policy, research, health and many other sectoral policies.

Ambassador Štālmeistars has a Master's degree in Economics and he is fluent in Latvian, English and Russian.