

Ambassador Dr. Jean-Jacques de Dardel is Head of the Swiss Mission to NATO and Ambassador of Switzerland to the Kingdom of Belgium. Prior to April 2007, he directed the Political Affairs Division of the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) in charge of bilateral relations with European and Central Asian countries, as well as with the Council of Europe and the OSCE. In that capacity, he also served as the national coordinator for the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

Born in 1954, he obtained a Masters in Economics from the University of Geneva , and was Secretary-Jurist at the ICRC and the Diplomatic Conference on the Development of Humanitarian Law in 1976-77. After completing a Doctorate in Political Science at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva , he joined the Swiss diplomatic service in 1981. He served as the foreign policy speechwriter of the President of the Swiss Confederation in 1983, before being appointed Regional Officer for Warsaw Pact countries, and then West and Southern European Countries. He subsequently served as Political Counsellor, in charge of politico-military affairs in Washington (1989-1993), Deputy Head of Mission in Canberra (1993-1996), Minister of the Swiss Embassy in France (1996-1998), and was appointed Ambassador to the International Francophone Organization, in Paris (1998-2000). He later headed the Euro-Atlantic Security Section of the Political Directorate in Berne, then the Centre for International Security Policy (CISP) of the Swiss MFA, from its inception in 2001. In 2004, he was appointed as the head of Political Affairs Division 1.