

Short biography of Petra Kneuer

Petra Kneuer is a lawyer with over 20 years of experience in the German Judiciary, at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, and the European Commission. She joined the European Commission in 2012 as Director for Internal Investigations and Expenditure at the European Anti-Fraud Office, OLAF. She was then Director for Strategy and Resources in DIGIT, before returning to OLAF in June 2022 as Director for Legal, Resources and Partnerships.

From January 2008 until December 2012, Petra was a Senior Trial Lawyer in the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, leading the prosecution of Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo. Prior to joining the ICC, she spent 16 years as a state and federal prosecutor in Germany where she investigated and prosecuted members/supporters of terrorist organizations including Ansar Al Islam and Al Qaida. Following the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, she served until 2005 as Germany's Principal Liaison Officer to the Counterterrorism Section of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. Subsequently she established the sub-office of the Office of the German Federal Prosecutor General at the new Joint Counterterrorism Centre in Berlin.

Petra holds a doctorate in law from the Rheinische-Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität in Bonn, Germany. She wrote her dissertation in criminal procedural law.