



## Bendt Bendtsen

### Senior Policy Advisor

Brussels

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## OVERVIEW

Bendt Bendtsen is a senior policy advisor in the Brussels office. Bendt is a former Danish politician and Member of the European Parliament (MEP) from Denmark. As a former Danish Deputy Prime Minister, Bendt is intimately familiar with the decision making process at the highest political level of the EU. During those years and the following ten years as an MEP, Bendt developed an impressive network at the top of EU politics. He worked closely with several of the current commissioners and heads of government in the EU, and established himself as strong MEP of the EPP group, which he represented in both the Committee for Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and the International Trade Committee (INTA).

Bendt was president of a special association within the EPP group, called SME Europe. This is a highly influential association of MEPs who defend the interests of industry within the Parliament. As the President of SME Europe, he had the opportunity to defend the interests of innovation in European companies and promote the development of European start-ups. Finally, during his entire political career Bendt was known for building bridges between industry partners and the various sides of the political spectrum.

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Bendt, a non-lawyer, has more than 25 years of experience in Danish and European politics and occupied several high-level positions in the European Parliament and in the Danish Government, including the position of Deputy Prime Minister between 2001 and 2008.

## PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Vice Chairman of the Odense Criminal Police Association (1986-1994)
- Criminal Assistant, Odense (1984-1999)
- Police Assistant, Odense (1980-1984)

## POLITICAL CAREER

- Member of the European Parliament for the European People's Party (2009-)

- Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (2012-2019)
- Delegation for relations with the People's Republic of China (2014-2019)
- Delegation for relations with the countries of South Asia (2009-2014)
- Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (2009-2012)
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic and Business Affairs (2001-2008)
- Political leader and Chairman of the Conservative People's Party (2000-2008)
- Vice-President of the Globalization Council (2005-2006)
- Vice President of International Democratic Union (IDU) (2005-2010)
- The Danish EU Presidency (2002)
- Member of the Internal Market Council (2001-2008)
- Member of the Danish Parliament of the Conservative People's Party (1994-2009)
- Member of Odense City Council (1990-1999)

## LANGUAGES

- Danish
- English

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Public Policy and Law
- European Regulatory