

PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Brian Gray**



Avenue des Chalets 5  
B-1180 Brussels

+32 2 343 9106

+32 477284891

Brian.gray1@skynet.be

Sex Male | Date of birth 12/03/1946 | Nationality British

WORK EXPERIENCE

Presently

- Chair of the Audit Committee of the European Council from 2013 to date
- Member of the Audit Committee of Fusion4Energy from 2014 to date (Chair from 2016 to 2019)
- Expert member of the Audit Committee of the EU's Committee of the Regions from 2014 to date
- Chair of the Financial Audit Board (the external audit body) of ITER Organisation from 2017 to 2019
- Honorary Treasurer of APEEE Services, which provides transport, canteen facilities and after-school activities to the European School 1 in Brussels

From December 2012 - 2019

**Part-time consultant**

Self-employed as Brian Gray FCA, based in Brussels

- assuring oversight of governance, risk management and internal controls in EU and other international organisations
- Special Advisor to the Director-General of Eurocontrol on Internal Audit Matters, responsible for heading the Internal Audit Unit until a new Head could be recruited, and for promoting improvements to the Agency's governance, risk management and respect of internal control standards (December 2012 until 31 March 2014).

From May 2009 to June 2012

**Director-General, Head of the Internal Audit Service of the European Commission**

Brussels

- Head of the Commission's Internal Audit Service, responsible for internal audit within the Commission, and within some 40 independent agencies and joint undertakings, including Fusion4Energy. The service coordinated the work of the IACs of all Commission services and other EU bodies, and produced an annual overall opinion on financial management within the Commission as from the year 2010.
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- Euratom's member of ITER's Financial Audit Board

From January 2003 to April 2009

**Deputy Director-General, Accounting Officer of the Commission**

European Commission, Brussels

- Accounting officer of the Commission, responsible for the Commission's accounts, for its project for the conversion to full accrual accounting, for validating financial systems in all Commission services,
- Responsible for modernising the Commission's accounting system, for presenting IPSAS-compliant accounts
- Responsible for relations with the European Parliament and Council concerning the annual discharge procedure, and with the European Court of Auditors. Responsible in particular for arriving at a common understanding between these bodies and the Commission Services regarding the control framework for EU funds.
- Responsible for launching its action plan towards an integrated control framework, in particular regarding controls over Member States' management of EU funds.
- Negotiating with the Member States, their Supreme Audit Institutions and other national control bodies an agreed control framework for EU funds

From 1992 to 2001

**Head of Unit then Director of Resources, European Commission**

DG Agriculture then DG Regional Policy, European Commission, Brussels

- in DG Regional policy, responsible for budgetary matters, accounts, legal affairs, audit in the Member States and candidate countries, computer systems, staff and administration, and the introduction of the Commission's administrative reform, Chairman of the structural funds' management committee.
- Responsible for reforming the control framework for the Agricultural and Cohesion Funds, for setting up Units for auditing these Funds, for establishing audit manuals, control methodology and supervisory arrangements |

**EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

From 1973 to date

**Continuous professional training as required to maintain the ICAEW qualification**

Attended or chaired numerous conferences each year on EU financial and control issues

1978

**Awarded title of Fellow of the ICAEW**

1973

**Admitted to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales (ICAEW)**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Professional Interests	I have a long-standing interest in Nuclear Fusion, having followed the challenges and achievements of the JET and F4E projects.
Projects	Participant in ICAEW's think-tank on public sector governance
Memberships	Equitation and golf clubs
Publications and Patents	A number of articles on public sector finance matters published in the accounting press, I organised and chaired EC conferences on EU finance and control issues, and gave presentations on these issues to conferences organised by the financial sector.
Other Relevant Information	Being semi-retired, I can spare the time needed to prepare for meetings and thus help them become efficient and effective. I know well the concerns of the European Court of Auditors and of the European Parliament, and the process of granting discharge.