

Anna Battersby

Dear Party Members,



I am a passionate **internationalist and pro-European** with knowledge and experience in fields highly relevant to the work of the Federal International Relations Committee including democracy building, promotion of the rule of law, justice and security, human rights and gender, and climate change.

I'm also a jurist and international governance specialist with many years of practical experience including in Whitehall, Westminster, Brussels, The Hague and in countries recovering from violent conflict.

Like many Party Members, I am alarmed by the current assault on the international rule-based order and on liberal values around the world. I would relish the opportunity to use my specific skills and experience to work with Party and to help drive forward our international work in addressing this challenge.

Why Vote for me?

- ✓ I have academic knowledge of, and training and skills in, international law and international practice. I can offer something unique to the work of the FIRC, and the Party, given my **extensive hands-on, experience working in diplomacy, strategy and operations** for international organisations.
- ✓ I previously worked as Party **Head of International Office**, supporting the FIRC. I understand the work of the Committee and how to promote close collaboration with others within the Party including the Parliamentary International Affairs Team. I engaged with our liberal networks (such as Liberal International, and ALDE) and I supported our sister parties and organisations abroad (including supporting sister parties with diaspora elections and work with Africa Liberal Network).
- ✓ I previously **managed Westminster Foundation for Democracy projects** for the Party, which will be of particular benefit given the renewed WFD funding.
- ✓ I have a **broad perspective on international affairs** having lived and worked in Afghanistan, Belgium, Canada, France, The Netherlands, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Serbia, and lived in Tbilisi Georgia. I have been deployed by the FCDO to post-conflict countries as a civilian expert and I have worked for the EU, UN and Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).
- ✓ I have **in-depth knowledge of the European Union**, having held multiple roles within the EU, including working on Common Foreign and Security Policy as an International Legal Expert to the European External Action Service (EEAS) and as European Commission Adviser on Justice, Human Rights and Gender in Afghanistan.
- ✓ My previous roles have provided me with an **excellent understanding of the international architecture** particularly in relation to the highly relevant fields of justice and security and the civil-military relationship. In Kosovo I sat on the UN Threat Assessment Committee, as well as helping establish and enable the team of international judges and prosecutors within the Ministry of Justice. I worked on the set up of an EU-funded extra-territorial court, the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, within an EU Common Security and Defence Policy Mission.

- ✓ I have good **knowledge of the EU accession process**. I worked for the European Commission in Brussels (EC Task Force for Justice and Home Affairs) on assessing candidate countries on meeting policing and justice criteria for EU accession. This knowledge is particularly relevant when supporting Ukraine's vision for its future, as well as Party's own goal of increased UK cooperation with the EU.
- ✓ My commitment to and **specialised knowledge of democracy building** extends beyond work for the Party on WFD projects. I have managed a programme of European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights micro-projects, I wrote civil and voter registration procedures in Kosovo, and I was responsible for the EC oversight of the EC/UNDP Programme Support for the Establishment of an Afghan Legislature. I have provided political analyses for diplomats and international judges, and most recently I participated in an ODIHR Election Monitoring Mission to North Macedonia.
- ✓ I have significant **experience of working on Gender and Human Rights**, and a strong commitment to promotion of inclusion, support for women's rights globally and tackling violence against women and girls. As EU Gender Adviser in Afghanistan, I managed a large anti-domestic violence programme and worked alongside UN Women on a National Action Plan. My experience as **Project Manager for the Foreign Office Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative (PSVI)** at its start-up is highly relevant to FIRC's work, with prioritisation of this Initiative called for in Party's most recent Policy passed at conference on Defending Women's Rights Across the Globe.
- ✓ I have the academic background and up-to-date practical **experience to support the Party's goal of pushing for ambitious climate action** and leadership on the international stage. I have an MSc in Governance of Sustainability from Leiden University, and I am currently a **Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Commissioner**- supporting Cornwall's efforts to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss. I am Director of a CIC- supporting community-led action to address the climate and biodiversity crises in Cornwall. I have also completed training with the UN Climate Security Mechanism on addressing the climate-security-peace nexus.

About me

I live in Cornwall with my husband and two children, and I'm a **member of the Truro and Falmouth Executive Committee**. I volunteer within my community and as well as being a Climate Commissioner I am a School Governor for my local Multi-Academy Trust. I am also a steering group member for our local Ukrainian Support Project in Cornwall, and I support my local climate action group on community energy and active travel projects. I successfully spearheaded a Crowdfunder campaign to purchase our local community's outdoor youth activity centre which the Conservative-led Council was about to close – and I am a passionate advocate for **youth inclusion** and engagement.

Please cast your vote for me!

