



Andrea Orizio

Ambassador / Permanent Representative of Italy to the EU Political and Security Committee

Mr. Andrea Orizio was born in Brescia (Italy) on the 25th of January, 1967.

After graduating in Law from the University of Milan in 1991, he attended post-graduate specialization courses/Masters at ISPI (Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale) in Milan, SIOI (Società Italiana per l'Organizzazione Internazionale) in Rome, ENA (Ecole Nationale d'Administration) Paris, and joined the Italian Diplomatic Service in 1992.

From 1992 to 1993 he was Deputy Head of the Africa Desk (Economic Affairs) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, after which he served at the Office of the Defence Minister's Diplomatic Counsellor from 1993 to 1994, followed by the Unit for Armaments Authorization and Control in 1994-1995.

From 1995 to 2000 Head of the Economic Section (Deputy Head of Mission in 1996-1997) at the Italian Embassy in Prague, and from 2000 to 2002 Deputy Head of Mission and Counsellor at the Italian Embassy in Zagreb, where he was also NATO-Croatia Contact Point Officer.

From 2002 to 2004 Deputy Head and from 2004 to 2005 Head of the Western Balkans Department (DG Europe) at the Foreign Affairs' Ministry in Rome.

From 2005 to 2008 First Counsellor at the Italian Permanent Delegation to NATO, in Brussels, in charge of issues relating to the Mediterranean Dialogue, the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, Middle East, NATO's Partnerships and Western Balkans, NATO-Ukraine, NATO-Georgia, NATO's enlargement (Albania and Croatia accession), Operation Active Endeavour, and NATO-EU matters. NATO Political Committee's Member.

From 2008 to 2013, Minister Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission at the Italian Embassy in Cairo. At the rising of the "Egyptian Revolution", on the 25th January 2011, he was Chargé d'Affaires a.i. and managed a 130 staff Embassy in emergency conditions. Head of the Anti-Terrorism and Global Threats Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Political Affairs), in Rome, from 2013 to 2014.

From 2014 to 2016, Balkans and Adriatic Director (DG European Union) at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, as well as National Coordinator of the Central European Initiative, EU Macroregional Strategies EUSAIR and EUSALP, Western Balkans' Process.

From 2016 to 2020, Ambassador/Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia (150 multinational staff and 10 million euros yearly budget), appointed at the end of an international selection.

Back to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in 2020, he was Head of Central and Northern Europe Division (DG Europe), and Deputy Director for European Countries. In 2021-2023, he was Deputy Director for European Countries (DG Europe and Trade Policy) and Coordinator for EFTA Countries and UK at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. In 2022-2023, he was also “Special Ambassador” and Europe Coordinator for Rome EXPO 2030 candidacy.

Since March 2023, he is Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Italy to the EU Political and Security Committee.

Languages: Italian mother tongue, fluent English and French, some knowledge of Czech, Serbian, Croatian and Arabic.

Married, one son and one daughter. “Cavaliere Ufficiale” of the “Ordine al Merito della Repubblica”, Member of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law.