CECILIA MALMSTRÖM
CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OECD IN 2021

The world is facing complex global challenges as we seek to recover from the COVID-19 crisis. The OECD will play a crucial role in the recovery process. I want to ensure that the OECD is fit for the future as a modern, member-driven organisation with an efficient leadership based on openness, equality and inclusiveness.
Cecilia Malmström is a Swedish politician who served as European Commissioner for Trade from 2014 to 2019 and as European Commissioner for Home Affairs from 2010 to 2014.

As EU Trade Commissioner, Cecilia Malmström represented the EU at the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other international trade forums and negotiated bilateral trade agreements between the EU and other countries. During her time as Trade Commissioner, Cecilia Malmström was also responsible for EU relations with the OECD. As EU Commissioner for Home Affairs, she led the European Commission’s work in the policy areas of judicial cooperation, fundamental rights, asylum and migration, border management, police cooperation and civil protection.

Between 2006 and 2010, Cecilia Malmström served as Swedish Minister for EU Affairs and prior to that she served as a Member of the European Parliament from 1999 to 2006. She is a member of the Swedish Liberal Party, which is now represented by the Renew Europe Group in the European Parliament.

Born in 1968 in Gothenburg, Sweden, Cecilia Malmström holds a PhD in political science from the University of Gothenburg, where she also worked as a lecturer and researcher in European politics for seven years. Cecilia Malmström is currently a guest professor at the School of Business, Economics and Law at the University of Gothenburg, where she teaches European affairs and trade policies. She is fluent in English, French and Spanish and has a fair knowledge of German and Italian. She is married and has two children.

During the current COVID-19 crisis, Cecilia Malmström has been an active member of the Restart Commission, an initiative recently created by the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce to strengthen the long-term competitiveness of Sweden after the pandemic. The Commission presented its proposals in mid-August.

OECD members should work together to embrace the positive aspects of globalisation and share ideas on how to better spread its benefits.
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The need for multilateral cooperation has never been greater. The complex challenges we will face after the COVID-19 pandemic cannot be solved by any single country alone. The OECD must continue to provide a unique platform for international dialogue and interaction, in its vital function for sharing ideas and data. Only by working together can we achieve a global recovery and joint prosperity.

A GREEN TRANSITION

As the world seeks to come out stronger from the global crisis, we must seize this opportunity to create a green recovery based on green investments and a climate-friendly energy transition. The OECD, with its extensive expertise, can play a key role in providing its member countries with the evidence-based analysis necessary for policies for a sustainable future.

INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT

The global crisis has developed into a jobs crisis, which is hitting the most vulnerable groups in society hardest. We must cooperate to build more resilient and inclusive labour markets by focusing on job opportunities for women, young people and low income workers. Priority must be given to digitalisation, education and innovation.
SWEDEN IS HONOURED to nominate Cecilia Malmström for the position of Secretary-General of the OECD.

SWEDEN IS a long-standing and strong supporter of the OECD, in line with our equally firm and sustained advocacy for international cooperation and the rules-based international order. In a world seeking to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for multilateral solutions and international organisations such as the OECD, with its extensive expertise, has never been greater.

AS PRIME MINISTER, I truly appreciate the role the OECD plays as a global norm-setter, supporting governments with evidence-based analysis in a wide range of policy areas. This role is even more relevant now in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, when we need to find solutions to common challenges, including a green transition and a sustainable and inclusive economic recovery.

CECILIA MALMSTRÖM has long and broad international experience at the highest political level. She is a firm believer in a strong multilateral system, international cooperation and sustainable development. Her well-proven leadership and communication skills will ensure that all members are heard equally, and she will provide the modern and visionary leadership the OECD needs to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

I AM PROUD to announce that we will nominate Cecilia Malmström as our candidate for the position of OECD Secretary-General. Given her long experience from the Swedish Government, the European Parliament and as EU Commissioner, as well as her proven commitment to international cooperation for democratic and sustainable economic development, Cecilia Malmström’s leadership would ensure that the OECD is a modern, member-driven organisation fit for the future.