

# Tom Vandenkendelaere

Member of the EPP-Group in the European Parliament



Successor to European Commissioner Marianne Thyssen, Tom Vandenkendelaere is a Member of the European Parliament since November 2014. He studied Latin–Modern Languages in his hometown Roeselare before undertaking translation studies at the Brussels Institut Libre Marie Haps. In the context of that study, Tom was an Erasmus student at the Fachhochschule Magdeburg-Stendal, and an intern at the Belgian Embassy in Berlin. He obtained a PhD in International Relations at the University of Kent with a thesis on the influence of Poland's EU accession on Polish-German bilateral relations. Tom combined his teaching duties with a job at the Belgian Ministry of

Foreign Affairs. There, he was involved in the preparation of ASEM 8 Summit of Asian and European countries. Tom also was desk officer for the political and economic relations with Vietnam and the Philippines, and was a member of the economic diplomacy team preparing the Economic Missions led by the then-Prince Philippe of Belgium. In 2012, he was elected as the chairman of the youth wing of the Flemish Christian-Democratic Party CD&V, to end his mandate prematurely in November 2014 and become a Member of the European Parliament. In his spare time, Tom enjoys volleyball, rally and good food. He is engaged and has one child.

## Education |

Klein Seminarie Roeselare |  
Latin - Modern Languages  
Institut Libre Marie Haps  
Brussels | Translator -  
English - German  
Erasmus | Magdeburg -  
Germany | Traineeship |  
Belgian Embassy Berlin  
International Relations Phd |  
Polish - German Relations |  
University of Kent

## First job |

Attaché Belgian Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs | Asia |  
Economic diplomacy

## Politics |

Elected Chairman JONG-  
CD&V 2013 - 2015  
European Parliament | Eco-  
nomic affairs, agro-food &  
youth employment

## Personal |

Roeselare | Volleybal |  
Rally | Good food |  
Engaged

