



Sandra Kalniete is a Member of the European Parliament and Vice-Chair of the EPP Group. She was a founding member of the Popular Front of Latvia, the largest pro-independence political organisation, and one of the political actors in Latvia's transition. Since the restoration of independence of Latvia in 1990, Kalniete has served as Ambassador to the UN, to France and to UNESCO, as Foreign Affairs Minister and as European Commissioner. Her memoirs, published in 2001, have rapidly become one of the major references to memorial accounts of the Soviet purges in Latvia.