



H.E. Pirkka Tapiola

European Union Ambassador to Thailand

The Ambassador of the European Union to Thailand, H.E. Mr Pirkka Tapiola, arrived in Thailand in September of 2017 and formally assumed his duties on 10 December 2017.

Mr Pirkka Tapiola was Head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova from 2013 to 2017. He served as Senior Adviser in the Strategic Planning Division of the European External Action Service (EEAS), within the Political Affairs Department of the Service.

In this capacity, he advised the EEAS leadership on Eastern Europe, and more broadly on issues related to democracy and transition.

From 2004 to 2010, Mr Tapiola worked in the EU Council Secretariat as Senior Adviser in the Policy Unit of the EU High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy, covering Ukraine, Belarus and the Republic of Moldova.

A Finnish career diplomat by background, Mr Tapiola's previous positions include Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Finland in Kyiv, from 2001 to 2004, and Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Finland in Bangkok, Thailand, with cross-accreditations to Burma, Cambodia and the Lao PDR, from 1998 to 2001.

In the mid 1990s, Mr Tapiola served with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in the Baltic States.

Mr Tapiola holds a Masters Degree in International Relations from the University of Helsinki.

He speaks Finnish, English, French, German, Russian, Ukrainian, Swedish and some Romanian and he is currently working on improving his Thai. He is married to Mrs Olga Tapiola and is the father of three children.