

Janez Potočnik

European Commissioner responsible for
Science and Research



Janez Potočnik is a Slovenian politician, currently serving as European Commissioner for Science and Research. He was formerly Slovenia's Minister for European Affairs.

He served as Assistant Director (1984–1987) and Director (1993–2001) at the Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development in Ljubljana. In 1993 he got his PhD in Economics at the University of Ljubljana. Between 1988 and 1993 he was Senior Researcher at the Institute for Economic Research in Ljubljana. He was Minister Councilor at the Slovenian Prime Minister's Cabinet 2001–2002 and Minister for European Affairs 2002–2004. He headed the negotiating team for the Accession of Slovenia to the EU between 1998 and 2004. That year he became European Commissioner, since November responsible for Science and Research.