

Mercedes Ortuño Sierra

Mercedes Ortuño Sierra holds a degree in law from the Complutense University of Madrid, Spain, and is a member of the Bar Association of Madrid. Since April 2009 she has been the Chairman of the Board of Appeal of the European Chemicals Agency.

Previously she was a Legally Qualified Official of the Spanish public administration, serving several years in various positions of responsibility within the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the Ministry of the Presidency and the Ministry of Justice. She coordinated the Spanish justice affairs team during the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2002.

She has also been responsible for international affairs in an independent supervisory agency - the Spanish Data Protection Agency - where she led the international team.

She has participated as a legal expert in numerous programmes of the European Commission involving candidate countries. She led the first synchronized enforcement action performed by all the EU Data Protection Authorities.

She also led the negotiation of enforcement cooperation arrangements with the US Federal Trade Commission. Since 2004 she has been adjunct professor of comparative privacy law (EU/US) at the Georgetown University Law Center.

In her current position as Chairman of the Board of Appeal of ECHA she presides over all appeals and in particular she is responsible for ensuring the quality and consistency of decisions of the Board of Appeal.