

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Marina Niforos



Marina Niforos is an institutional economist and an expert in economic development and competitiveness. She started her career at the World Bank, where she served as Country Officer for Ecuador and Colombia, responsible for strategy and portfolio management of the country borrower. She spearheaded the first fully participatory country strategy assistance with civil society, now a standard at the World Bank. She received the Award for Excellence Prize by President Wolfensohn in recognition of her contribution in the sovereign debt conversion process of Colombia.

In France, Marina occupied senior positions in corporate venturing and strategic development within the Groupe Pechiney and was Executive Director of the INSEAD Centre of Research on Diversity and Leadership. Most recently she served as Managing Director of the American Chamber of Commerce in France, a business organisation of more than 500 transatlantic companies, with many of the Fortune 500 and CAC40, to promote transatlantic trade and investments and sustain a constructive policy dialogue with public authorities.

Marina was named Commissioner to the US National Commission for UNESCO in 2012 by the US Secretary of State and she serves on the Board of a number of non-profits, think tanks and business schools. She has an MBA from INSEAD, a Diploma in International Relations and European Studies from the SAIS-Johns Hopkins and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Pennsylvania. She received her BA from Cornell University with a major in Government. Marina speaks Greek, English, French, Spanish and Italian and is a published author and frequent speaker in international conferences on issues of trade, inclusive growth, leadership and social innovation.