

DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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SEAN RONAN

Special Counselor to Roy Jenkins  
President of the Commission of the European Communities

An Irish and European civil servant, Mr. Ronan was born in Cork in 1924.

He graduated from Rochestown College (Cork County) in 1942 and continued his education at the National University of Ireland (Dublin), graduating with honors in 1947 in legal and political science (M.A. and LL.B.).

His civil service career began in the Department of Finance and continued in the Foreign Affairs Department. He was the Consul General of Ireland in Chicago from 1955-60. On his return to Ireland, he served as Counselor in the Foreign Affairs Department's Information Division, and subsequently became Assistant Secretary-General for Political Information, Cultural Affairs and International Organizations.

In 1972, Mr. Ronan was appointed Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

In 1973, following enlargement of the European Community -- with Ireland, Denmark and Britain joining the original six member countries (Belgium, France, F.R. Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands) -- he was appointed Director-General for Information Affairs at the EC Commission.

After taking office as EC Commission President this past January, Roy Jenkins asked Mr. Ronan to be his special adviser to oversee the reorganization of the Commission's information activities, before returning to the Irish Foreign Service.

Mr. Ronan represented Ireland's Foreign Affairs Department at United Nations conferences, the Council of Europe, International Atomic Energy Agency and Political Cooperation meetings of Foreign Affairs Ministers of EC member countries.

Mr. Ronan's private interests are, in his own words, "life, literature, and the arts." He played gaelic football, hurling and rugby, is a member of the United Arts Club of Dublin, and has been decorated with the Great Order of Merit with Star of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mr. Ronan is married. The couple lives in Brussels, Belgium.

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February 1977

