

CV PAOLO DE CASTRO

Paolo De Castro was Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Parliament from July 2009 to July 2014, following his election to the European Parliament for the Democratic Party from Italy's South constituency.

In May 2014 he ran again for the EP and was elected in the North East constituency. He is currently the co-ordinator of the Socialists and Democrats Group in the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development.

From 1996 to 1998 he was economic advisor to Prime Minister Romano Prodi and economic advisor to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Michele Pinto.

From 21 October 1998 to 25 April 2000 he was Minister of Agriculture and Forestry during the two D'Alema Governments.

On 9 April 2006 he was elected to the Chamber of Deputies from the Olive Tree list in the Puglia constituency.

On 17 May 2006 he became Minister of Agriculture and Forestry in the Prodi Government.

On 22 April 2008 he was elected to the Senate (16th Parliament) in the Puglia constituency from the Democratic Party lists; Vice Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agrifood Production.

Scientific co-ordinator of Paris *Centre International des Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéens* (C.I.H.E.A.M); member of the European Agricultural Economics Association (EAEA) and the *Società Italiana di Economia Agraria* (SIDEA).

Professor at Bologna National Agricultural Academy, Florence Georgofili Academy, Pesaro Agronomy Academy and Treja National Academy.

Paolo De Castro is among the main experts of national and European policies on agrifood systems and rural areas. He is considered one of Italy's main contributors to Agenda 2000, the comprehensive agricultural policy reform promoting EU measures on rural development.

Author of over 100 scientific publications, many of which focus on European policy prospects.

Paolo De Castro graduated in Agricultural Science from Bologna University. He is currently Professor of Economics and Agricultural Policy at the Veterinary Medicine Faculty of Bologna University.