

# SOILI MÄKELÄINEN- BUHANIST

Ambassador Extraordinary and  
Plenipotentiary of the Republic of  
Finland to the Republic of  
Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic

**Embassy of Finland in  
Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan**



**Mrs. Soili Mäkeläinen-Buhanist is currently serving as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Finland to the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic since 2020.** Prior to her current position, she held various roles in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

From 2017 to 2020, she worked as a Senior Adviser in the Department for External Economic Affairs. She also served as Minister Counsellor and Head of Trade and Economic Section at the Embassy of Finland in Washington D.C., USA from 2013 to 2017. Her expertise in regional cooperation led her to the position of Director of the Unit for Regional Cooperation in the Department for Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia from 2009 to 2013.

Throughout her career, she gained valuable experience in international trade and economic relations. She served as Minister Counsellor and Head of Trade and Economic Section at the Embassy of Finland in Moscow, Russian Federation (2005-2008) and Consul at the Consulate General of Finland in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation (2004-2005). Additionally, she held positions focusing on EU enlargement, action programs for Central and Eastern Europe, and international economic institutions.

Ambassador holds a Master of Economic Sciences degree and has completed the International Affairs course at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. She is proficient in English, Swedish, Russian, French, German, Spanish, and Italian, and has basic knowledge of Chinese and Japanese.

