



# CURRICULUM VITAE

**Ambassador, Special Envoy to the 2020 Afghanistan Conference**  
**Janne Taalas**

Ambassador Taalas was born in 1967 in Jyväskylä, Finland. He is married with two children. He has served the Ministry for Foreign Affairs since 1997, most recently as:

**Ambassador, Special Envoy to the 2020 Afghanistan Conference**, Helsinki, March 2020

**Ambassador, Cyber Diplomacy**, Helsinki, July 2019 –

**Ambassador of Finland to Italy, Malta and San Marino**, Rome, September 2015 – June 2019

**Deputy Permanent Representative** (Rank of Ambassador), Finnish Permanent Mission to the UN,  
New York, August 2010 – August 2015

**Director of Policy Planning**, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Helsinki, December 2008 – July 2010

**Deputy Head of the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship Task Force**, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Helsinki,  
August 2007 – November 2008

Ambassador Taalas holds a **Doctor of Philosophy in Politics** from St Antony's College, University of Oxford. Additionally, he holds the following degrees:

**Master of Philosophy in European Politics and Society**, St Antony's, University of Oxford, July 1995

**Master of Science in Economics**, University of Jyväskylä, October 1991

**Master of Arts in Social Sciences**, University of Jyväskylä, June 1991

**University Diploma of Development Studies with Merit**, University of Kent, July 1990

Ambassador Taalas speaks the following languages:

**Finnish** - Mother tongue

**Swedish, Italian** – Good

**English** – Excellent

**German, French** - Intermediate