

EIOPA Occupational Pensions Stakeholder Group

Gertrude Anna Pils

Active engagement in advocating fair and sustainable pensions, protection of financial consumers, equal pay, reducing the pension gap and social care for senior and disadvantaged citizens is Gertrude's motivation to join the OPSG:

- Vice Chair of PEKABE, the Austrian Federation Of The Occupational Pension Fund Participants; NPO with 6000 individual supporting members that advocates the interests of more than 1 million members and beneficiaries of occupational pension schemes (mainly DC). www.pekabe.at
- Board Member at the Austrian Association of Bank and Savings Bank Pensioners; www.bankpensionisten.at
- Representative of PEKABE at BETTER FINANCE, the European Federation of Investors and Financial Services Users; www.betterfinance.eu
- Board Member at WIENER SOZIALDIENSTE (Vienna Social Services) and Chair of the Supervisory Board of the WS Elderly & Care Services (NPO with 1800 employees); www.wienersozialdienste.at
- Chair of APC-HELP, an Austrian Charity NPO; www.apc-help.at
- Member of the UniCredit Bank Austria Women's Forum



Gertrude Pils is a veteran in the European financial industries with extensive international experience. She worked for 28 years in leadership positions at the UniCredit Group (www.unicredit.eu). Before she retired 2019, she served as Senior Vice President in Risk Management, CEO of the UniCredit Turn-Around Management CEE holding (distressed asset management in 12 European countries) and CEO of the Europa Real Estate Fund. After the merger of UniCredit, HypoVereinsbank and Bank Austria she headed the Global Cross Border Business Management of the new Banking Group. In prior positions at Bank Austria (www.bankaustria.at) she supervised a portfolio of 60 financial services companies, was Director for the Western Europe and Overseas Region, General Manager of the banking operations in Central and Eastern Europe and headed the Bank's International Controlling.

For 7 years Ms. Pils managed strategic projects at MERKUR Insurance (www.merkur.at) where she introduced a new era of digitalization for the insurance distribution, re-organized the Life Insurance and set up a group-wide Management Information System. She started her career as Software Engineer at Siemens (www.siemens.com). Gertrude is Graduated Engineer in Technical Mathematics (TU Graz) and studied Business Administration at the WU Vienna. As private stock investor she tightly monitors the global capital markets and financial industries.

Gertrude comments on her motivation to join the OPSG: "A pension system is as good as it ultimately provides save and sustainable pension payments to its beneficiaries. The trend towards DC schemes is shifting plenty of risks to its members, - parallel to efforts to broaden the access to occupational pensions across Europe. This requires constant improvements of the framework accordingly and EIOPA has a key role to protect and re-build the trust of the European citizens. "

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