

EMMA BONINO

Vice-President of the Italian Senate



Emma Bonino is currently **Vice-President of the Italian Senate**.

She is Board Member of the **European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)**, Council Member of the **International Crisis Group (ICG)** and Chair of the Italian Scientific Committee of the **Italian-Turkish Forum of Dialogue**. She is also member of the **Independent Commission on Turkey**.

From May 2006 to May 2008, she served as **Minister for International Trade and European Affairs**. First elected to the Italian Chamber of Deputies in 1976, at the age of 28, she has served **either in the Italian or in the European Parliament** continuously since then, except when (between 1995 and 1999) she was **European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid, Fisheries, Consumer Policy, Consumer Health Protection and Food Safety**.

In 2001 (until 2004) she moved to Cairo as **Visiting Professor at the American University of Cairo**; her time in Egypt focused on human rights and humanitarian issues in the Middle East and North Africa. As part of her work in the region she headed the political process that led to the **Sana'a Inter-Governmental Regional Conference on Democracy**, an unprecedented meeting of Governments and Civil Society from Arab and neighbouring countries that took place in January 2004. Since July 2003, Emma Bonino has also been campaigning for ratification of the Maputo Protocol on "Women's Rights in Africa" and for ending female genital mutilations.

She has been awarded with numerous prizes, among them the "**Bosphorus Prize**" in 2008.