

**François Lafond**

François Lafond is the director of the Paris office of The German Marshall Fund of the United States (since July 2008). Most recently, François Lafond was a special advisor of the Italian Minister for Regional Affairs and Local Autonomies, responsible for international relations of the think tank Glocus in Roma, and associate professor at the Centre for European Studies of Sciences-Po Paris (2001-). Previously, he was special adviser of the Italian undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs (2006-7), deputy director of Policy Network in London (2003-6), researcher and then deputy secretary general of the think tank Notre Europe in Paris (1999-2003), then chaired by Jacques Delors, and research associate at the European University Institute's Robert Schuman Centre in Florence (1995-9). Lafond holds a diploma from Institut d'études politiques de Grenoble and has 3 master's degrees in political science, public law and European studies. He is also a former trainee from the European Commission in Brussels (1990). François Lafond has published on European policy issues including biotechnology, bioethics, and food safety, and on European regulatory affairs. He is also a regular collaborator of the daily Italian Newspaper Europa on French politics.