

## Heikki Cantell

General Counsel and Head of Legal Department at Nordic Investment Bank; Former General Counsel at the Council of Europe Development Bank, Former Head of Branch, Heikki Haapaniemi Law Firm (Paris)



**Heikki Juhani CANTELL**

born March 9, 1959 in Helsinki, Finland  
married - two adult children

**Nationality**

Finnish

**Home**

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**Education**

**University of Helsinki**  
L.L.M. 1987 (Master of Law)

**University of Paris II, France**  
Diplôme Supérieur d'Université 1991  
(Postgraduate degree in commercial law)

**Member of Helsinki and Paris Bars**

**Harvard Business School**  
Advanced Management Program 2017

**Language skills**

Finnish : mother tongue  
Swedish, English, French : bilingual  
German, Italian : basic knowledge



## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

**2007- today**

**General Counsel and Head of Legal Department  
Secretary General  
NORDIC INVESTMENT BANK (NIB)  
Helsinki**

NIB is an International Financial Institution (IFI) established by a treaty between and owned by eight sovereign States. NIB finances project in its member countries and also in 40 countries around the world with which it has a Framework Agreement. NIB's funding activity reaches even beyond these countries. NIB is a regional IFI with a global reach.

Working in a multicultural environment, managing all the legal aspects of all the Bank's activities including:

- Negotiating Framework Agreements between non-member States and the Bank establishing a possibility for the Bank to finance projects outside membership
- All typical General Counsel's tasks as listed below under Council of Europe Development Bank hereunder (mutatis mutandis)
- Representing the Bank in IFIs' General Counsels' Ring (from 2014 Dean of the Group), in the IFIs' Secretary Generals' Ring and in other legal forums
- Secretary to the statutory organs of the Bank, managing the Bank's contacts with the member countries and their representatives

Member of NIB's Executive Committee, Credit Committee, Assets and Liabilities -Committee as well as the Cooperation Council (as the employer's representative in this organ of cooperation between management and staff).

**1995 – 2007**

**General Counsel  
COUNCIL OF EUROPE DEVELOPMENT BANK (CEB)  
Paris**

### **Principal responsibilities :**

Working in a multi-cultural environment, managing all the legal aspects of all the Bank's activities including :

- Advising the Governor, the Vice-Governors and Directors on legal matters
- Preparing draft Board Resolutions
- Reviewing legal aspects of capital increases and negotiating them
- Negotiating new States' membership
- Preparing projects in view of their financing by the Bank
- Negotiating and verifying all contracts (loan agreements, funding operations, capital market instruments, leases, contracts with suppliers, consultants, etc.) with third parties (Member States, governmental offices, local authorities, various private sector counterparties, NGOs, other IFIs, etc)
- Negotiating specific issues, including arrears, setting up of trust funds
- Managing of litigations
- Compliance matters
- Managing human resources, development of staff rules and pension schemes
- Participating in working groups on various issues, e.g., security, procedures, archives.
- Contacts with rating Agencies



Participating in the general management of the Bank in direct contact and co-operation with the Governor, the Vice Governors and the other Directors. Participating in the Bank's Committees: General Management, Treasury, Operations, Risk, Funding, Information Technology, Audit.

Representing the Bank in IFIs' General Counsels' Ring and other legal forums.

From December 1998 to July 2001, also Director a.i., Human Resources and General Services.

**1987 - 1995**

**Attorney-at-law**

**HEIKKI HAAPANIEMI LAW OFFICES,**

Helsinki, Finland

**1990 -1995**

**Head of the Paris branch**

First Finnish lawyer, member of the Helsinki Bar, admitted to the Paris Bar and working in Paris. Setting up and developing the branch Advising Finnish Companies doing business in France, as well as French companies doing business in Finland, on legal, fiscal and operational questions. Mergers and acquisitions. Private persons' investments in France

**1987 - 1990**

**Attorney in Helsinki**

Attorney in Helsinki, advising foreign and international companies, on their operations in Finland. Company law, Contract law, Labour law, Intellectual property rights, Distribution and Commercial Agency law, etc..

**1985 - 1987**

**Legal Counsel**

**FINNISH CULTURAL FOUNDATION**

Helsinki, Finland

(Largest non-governmental foundation in Finland with important shareholdings in several stock exchange listed large groups)

Investments and asset management. Management of donations and bequests as well as real estate operations.

**1981 - 1985**

**NORDEA BANK LTD**

Helsinki, Finland

Summer internships in the International Loans -department.



## OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member of the Panel of Recognised International Market Experts in Finance (PRIME)

Member of Board of Directors in Cantell Ltd (management of Cantell family assets) and Vipunen Ltd (management of Herlin family assets)

Conseiller du Commerce Extérieur for the Republic of France

Arbitrator nominated by the International Chamber of Commerce in international commercial litigations

Ecole Polytechnique of Helsinki  
Professor of International Contract Law, 1989

Attorney- at- law attached to the French Embassy in Helsinki, 1990

Speeches at the World Bank Law Justice and Development Week, United Nations in Geneva, George Washington University, Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, French Foreign Trade Chamber, Paris Chamber of Commerce, International Association of Young Lawyers, Finnish Export Foundation etc.

Representing Finland in a television show on European Union, French State tv channel "France 2", 1999 - 2001

Member of :

- International Bar Association
- International Young Lawyers' Association, Member of the Executive Committee (1993-2002)
- Arbitration Commission, International Chamber of Commerce
- Finnish Lawyers' Association
- Stock Exchange Club of Helsinki
- Finnish-French Chamber of Commerce, Administrator
- Cercle de l'Union Interalliée, Paris
- Börsklubben (Stock Exchange Club), Helsinki
- Finnish Association in France, Honorary Member
- Association France-Finlande, Honorary President
- Association for the Support of the Finnish Cultural Foundation (invited member)
- Association for the Support of the Finnish Cultural Heritage
- Association Friedebert Tuglas (invited member) (friendship between Estonia and Finland)