

DR VANESSA SCHERRER, SCIENCES PO'S NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Dr Vanessa Scherrer was appointed Vice President for International Affairs at Sciences Po in April 2018. Her mission will be to drive the international transformation of the institution that has been gaining in intensity for the past twenty years.

Sciences Po has become a leading international university with more than 470 partners worldwide. The institution has set up a large number of exchange programmes for students and faculty and was among the first to offer international dual degrees and build innovative academic and scientific alliances with institutions abroad. Today, half the university's degree-seeking students are international students from 150 different countries. Sciences Po's strategy has led to the development of a truly international curriculum, including a mandatory full year of study abroad for all undergraduate students. According to the Times Higher Education ranking, Sciences Po is now the most international higher education institution in France based on the proportion of international students.

Dr Scherrer takes over from Francis Verrillaud, who throughout an outstanding 25-year career at Sciences Po worked tirelessly to establish Sciences Po's position as France's leading university in the social sciences and as a truly global actor.

Sciences Po President Frédéric Mion: "Vanessa Scherrer has done a remarkable job of leading the Sciences Po Paris School of International Affairs, which in just a few years has become a leading school on the global stage and has raised Sciences Po's profile across the continents. In that role and in her previous position as head of the Alliance Programme at Columbia University, New York, Dr Scherrer made a central contribution to implementing Sciences Po's international strategy and strengthening our international appeal and reach. We have big ambitions for the years to come and I know that she will throw all her talent and efforts into promoting Sciences Po's influence and excellence worldwide, with the support of our dedicated, quality staff and in continuation of the work of her predecessor, Francis Verrillaud."

Until last October, Dr Scherrer was the Executive Director and Vice Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs of Sciences Po (PSIA), a school she founded and led with Ghassan Salamé in 2010 and later with Enrico Letta. Under her leadership, PSIA has become one of the world's most respected and attractive graduate schools of international affairs. Dr Scherrer started her career at Columbia University in New York (2001-2010), where she founded and headed the Alliance Programme, a major platform for transatlantic cooperation in higher education and research involving Columbia University, the Ecole Polytechnique, Université Paris I-Panthéon Sorbonne and Sciences Po and supported by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Dr Scherrer holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Sciences Po and is a member of PSIA faculty.

About Sciences Po

Sciences Po is a selective research university of international standing based on the values of openness and excellence. Sciences Po's unique academic model combines expertise in the humanities and social sciences, multidisciplinary and a professional grounding to educate professionals and citizens able to understand and transform society. Diversity is a key element of Sciences Po's identity. The student body comprises 47% international students from 150 different countries and 27% scholarship students, up from 6% in 2000.

Press contact

Marie Frocrain: marie.frocrain@sciencespo.fr / 01 49 54 37 71