



MR. JANNE KUUSELA

PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, FINLAND

Mr. Janne Kuusela is the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence of Finland. The Permanent Secretary manages and supervises the activities of the Ministry of Defence together with the Minister.

Mr. Kuusela joined the MoD in 1999 working with Finland's defence support for the Baltic States. Later on, he was specialist on European Security and Defence Policy (2001-2003) and Finland's cooperation with NATO (2003-2006). He has served as Defence Adviser at the Mission of Finland to NATO Headquarters (2006-2009) and as Ministerial Adviser at the MoD (2009-2012) on Finland's multinational and bilateral defence cooperation. Mr. Kuusela has also served as Director of the MoD Corporate Planning Unit (2012-2016), where his tasks included development of defence administration's organization and economic efficiency, overseeing the implementation of government's program.

From 2016 to February 2026 Mr. Kuusela served as Director General of the Defence Policy Department, which is responsible for developing Finnish Defence Policy, participation in international defence cooperation, providing the basis for the Defence Forces' planning and the direction of strategic research.

Mr. Kuusela was appointed Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence of Finland 1st February 2026. He is also the Chair of the Security Committee. The Security Committee is a permanent and broad-based cooperation body for proactive preparedness and its role is to assist the Government and ministries in matters of comprehensive security.