

Laura Thompson | Class of 1999

Originally from Costa Rica, Laura Thompson is a renowned Ambassador with over 30 years of experience in diplomacy. In 1994, she joined the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations (UN) and other international organisations in Geneva, marking the first step in a long career in International Geneva. 13 years later, she became Ambassador for the Permanent Mission. She subsequently was elected as Deputy Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) from 2009 to 2021.



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From 2007-2009, Laura Thompson served as Vice-Chair and subsequently Chair of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Here with António Guterres, the 9th Secretary-General of the UN, and Navi Pillay, then High-Commissioner for Human Rights.



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Since 2023, Laura Thompson has been serving as Assistant Director-General for External and Corporate Relations at the International Labour Organization (ILO), maintaining her ties to International Geneva.



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In 2022 and 2023, Laura Thompson worked in the conception and creation of the Centre for Innovation in Global Politics and Economics (CIGPE) at the IE University School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs in Madrid, becoming its Founding Director as well as an adjunct professor.

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