

Dr Barbara Kerstiens

[Research & Innovation DG, European Commission \(EC\)](#)

Dr. Barbara Kerstiens, MD, MPH is the Head of Unit in the unit responsible for 'Combatting Diseases' in the PEOPLE Directorate of the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation at the European Commission. She has a long experience in international public health, working for Médecins Sans Frontières, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public health and DG Development and Cooperation of the European Commission prior to joining DG Research and Innovation in 2012 where she has consistently worked in medical research and funding.

Barbara Kerstiens received her M.D. from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, a Postgraduate Certificate in Tropical Medicine from the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp and a Master of Public health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.