



Canada
Stephen Harper

Stephen Harper was elected prime minister of Canada in January 2006, assuming office from Paul Martin in February with a minority government. Harper ran for re-election in 2008 and again on 2 May 2011, when he returned to the House of Commons with a majority. Before running for parliament he served as a policy advisor for the Reform Party, and was first elected as a member of parliament in 1993. He served as leader of the opposition for several years before becoming prime minister.

Harper was born in Toronto, Ontario, on 30 April 1959. He studied at the University of Toronto and the University of Calgary, earning his master's degree in economics in 1991. He and his wife, Laureen, have two children. This will be the seventh G8 summit that Harper has attended.

Sherpa: *Gérald Cossette*



France
François Hollande

François Hollande was recently elected president of France, taking over from Nicolas Sarkozy, whom he defeated in the run-off of the French presidential election on 6 May 2012. Hollande served as first secretary of the Socialist Party from 1997 to 2008. He has been the Deputy of the National Assembly of France for Corrèze from 1988 to 1993 and again since 1997, and was also the mayor of Tulle from 2001 to 2008. He joined the Socialist party in 1979, and was an economic advisor for François Mitterrand.

Born in Rouen on 12 August 1954, Hollande holds degrees from École nationale d'administration (ENA), and the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). His partner is Valérie Trierweiler, and he has four children with his previous partner, Ségolène Royal. This will be Hollande's first G8 summit.

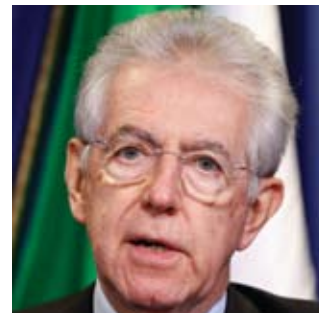
Sherpa: *Jean-David Levitte*



Germany
Angela Merkel

Angela Merkel became chancellor of Germany in 2005, replacing Gerhard Schröder, who had been in power since 1998. Before entering politics she worked as a researcher and physicist. She was first elected to the Bundestag in 1990 and has held the cabinet portfolios for women and youth, environment, nature conservation and nuclear safety. She was born in Hamburg on 17 July 1956 and received her doctorate in physics from the University of Leipzig in 1978. She is married to Joachim Sauer and has no children. This will be Merkel's seventh G8 summit.

Sherpa: *Lars-Hendrik Röller*



Italy
Mario Monti

Mario Monti was sworn in as prime minister of Italy on 16 November 2011 to lead a technocratic government after the resignation of Silvio Berlusconi. He also serves as Minister of the Economy and Finance. He was a member of the European Commission for a decade, as commissioner for the Internal Market, Financial Services and Financial Integration Customs, and Taxation from 1995 to 1999, and then for Competition from 1999 to 2004. Prior to joining the European Commission, he was a professor of economics at Bocconi University and its rector from 1989 to 1994.

Born in Varese on 19 March 1943, Monti received a degree in economics and business from Bocconi University and did his postgraduate studies at Yale University under James Tobin. He and his wife, Elsa, have two children. This will be Monti's first G8 summit.

Sherpa: *Pasquale Terracciano*

European Union



Herman Van Rompuy

Herman Van Rompuy was elected the first full-time president of the European Council on 19 November 2010. He was previously prime minister of Belgium from 2008 to 2009. Before entering politics, he was a lecturer. Born in Etterbeek, Belgium, on 31 October 1947, he holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy and a master's in applied economics from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. He is married to Geertrui Windels and has four children. This will be Van Rompuy's third G8 summit.

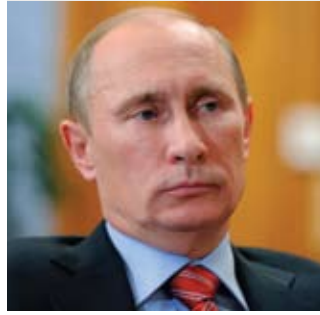


Japan
Yoshihiko Noda

Yoshihiko Noda was appointed prime minister of Japan on 2 September 2011, following the resignation of Naoto Kan in August. Noda served as finance minister from June 2010, and senior vice finance minister in 2009. He was first elected to public office in 1987 in Chiba prefecture and then, in 1993, to the national Diet.

Born in Funabashi, Chiba prefecture, on 20 May 1957, Noda is a graduate of the School of Political Science and Economics at Waseda University. He is married and has two children. This will be Noda's first G8 summit.

Sherpa: *Shinichi Nishimaya*



Russia
Vladimir Putin

Vladimir Putin assumed the position of president of the Russian Federation on 7 May 2012. He succeeds Dmitri Medvedev who had been president since 2008. Putin served as prime minister under Medvedev, having earlier been elected president in 2000 and re-elected in 2004, but being unable to seek a third term under the Russian constitution.

Putin became acting president on 31 December 1999 after Boris Yeltsin resigned. A member of the United Russia party since its establishment in 2001, he led the party from 2008 until April 2012. From 1998 to 1999, he was director of the Federal Security Service, the successor to the KGB, having worked for the KGB from 1975 to 1991. He also first deputy chair of the St Petersburg city government and chair of its external relations committee, as well as secretary of the Russian Security Council.

Putin was born on 7 October 1952, in Leningrad (now St Petersburg) and graduated from Leningrad State University's law faculty. He and his wife, Ludmila, have two daughters. Camp David will be Putin's ninth summit.

Sherpa: *Arkady Dvorkovich*



United Kingdom
David Cameron

David Cameron became prime minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 11 May 2010. He was first elected to parliament in 2001 as representative for Witney. Before becoming a politician he worked for the Conservative Research Department, and served as a political strategist and advisor to the Conservative Party. He has served as the leader of the Conservative Party since December 2005.

Born in London, England, on 9 October 1966, he received his bachelor's degree in philosophy, politics and economics at the University of Oxford. He is married to Samantha Cameron and has two children. This will be Cameron's third G8 summit.

Sherpa: *Ivan Rogers*



United States of America
Barack Obama

Barack Obama became president of the United States in January 2009, replacing George W Bush, who had held the presidency since 2002. In 2005, Obama was elected to the Senate, having previously worked as a community organiser, a civil rights lawyer and a state legislator for Illinois.

He was born on 4 August 1961 in Honolulu, Hawaii, to a Kenyan father and American mother. He received a bachelor's degree from Columbia University in 1983 and a law degree from Harvard University in 1991. He is married to Michelle Obama and they have two children. This will be Obama's fourth G8 summit and his first as host.

Sherpa: *Michael Froman*



José Manuel Barroso

José Manuel Barroso became president of the European Commission in November 2004. Previously, he was prime minister of Portugal from 2002 to 2004. Before entering politics, he was an academic. He studied law at the University of Lisbon, holds a master's degree in economics and social sciences from the University of Geneva, and received his doctorate from Georgetown University in 1998. He is married to Maria Margarida Pinto Ribeiro de Sousa Uva and has three children. This is Barroso's eighth G8 summit.

Sherpa:
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Global Health Diplomacy Program

Global Health 2012, edited by the Graduate Institute's Iona Kockbusch and the University of Toronto's James Orbinski and John Kirtcn, will be published in May 2012.

Global health needs new approaches and solutions. The past ten years have seen many new agreements and commitments, innovations in global health governance and an unprecedented growth of resources for global health initiatives. But fragmentation, competing agendas, slow economic growth and fiscal consolidation make coherent global governance a pressing challenge. The United Nations High-Level Meeting in 2011 on addressing the major non-communicable diseases has given prominence to additional threats to economic development. Global health advocates underline the need for equity-based approaches to health from society and government as a whole. And there is a growing recognition that civil society and the business community play a critical role. There are high expectations of the World Health Organization's ambitious programme of reform to address today's challenges to bring relevant stakeholders together in ways that maximize the contributions of all.

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