

**Name:** Maria João Duarte      **Nationality:** Portuguese  
**Languages:** Portuguese (native), English, French and Italian

### **Professional Experience:**

#### **April 2021 – Present: Representative to the EU Institutions**

##### **Mitsubishi Heavy Industries – EMEA, Ltd., Brussels Liaison Office, <https://www.mhi.com>**

- Create and maintain regular and effective networks with EU institutions, key governments (EU Member States Permanent Representations, Japan) and relevant Global & European stakeholders
- Identify and analyse opportunities and risks, and advise on relevant political and regulatory matters to inform strategy development and implementation in EMEA region. Focus on energy transition and sustainability (power generation, steel, aviation, maritime – Hydrogen, Power to X, CC(U)S)
- Liaise and represent MHI in Global & European Associations, e.g. Hydrogen Council, Hydrogen Europe, EU Clean Hydrogen Alliance, European CCUS Forum, CO<sub>2</sub> Value Europe, etc.
- Co-author / speaker on Hydrogen, Power to X and CCUS topics
- Internal coordination of Public Affairs & Strategy functions across Group Companies in the EMEA region
- Brief Senior Executives

#### **Oct 2015 – Mar 2021: Representative to the EU Institutions**

##### **Mitsubishi Power Europe, Brussels Liaison Office, <https://emea.power.mhi.com>**

- Establish Brussels Liaison Office and associated function
- Create and maintain regular and effective contacts with EU institutions, key governments (EU Member States Permanent Representations, Japan) and relevant stakeholders
- Monitor, analyse and advise on relevant political, economic and financial developments. Focus on energy- and climate-related trends, incl. carbon reduction mechanisms and technologies
- Representation in European Associations and Experts Groups at EU level; elected Executive Board member of the European Association for Storage of Energy (EASE) (Jan 2016 – Dec 2019)
- Co-author / speaker on a variety of decarbonisation-related topics
- Brief Senior Executives

#### **Sept 2011 – Sep 2015: Principal policy officer**

##### **European Association for Storage of Energy (EASE), [www.ease-storage.eu](http://www.ease-storage.eu)**

- Support Founding Members and Secretary General to establish association
- Responsible for overall implementation of the Association's strategy on energy storage, incl. engagement and advocacy
- Supervision of Policy & Communication teams
- Monitor, inform and advise on relevant policy developments
- Write position papers, briefs and presentations
- Liaise with the EU institutions and relevant stakeholders at international, European, and national level
- Represent EASE in different international, European, and local events (speaker and participant)
- Representation in EU Experts Groups: Smart Grids, ENTSO-E, etc.

#### **Oct 2008 – Aug 2011: Policy and communications officer**

##### **European Power Plant Suppliers Association (EPPSA), <http://www.eppsa.eu/>**

- Responsible for overall implementation of the Association's strategy on thermal power plant technology
- Monitor and inform of relevant political, economic and financial developments
- Write position papers, briefs and presentations
- Liaise with the EU institutions and relevant stakeholders at international, European, and national level
- Represent EPPSA in different international, European, and local events (speaker and participant)

#### **Jan – Jul 2008: Communications assistant - Desk Office for Portugal**

##### **United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe (UNRIC), [www.unric.org](http://www.unric.org)**

- Create information material for external users, namely ministerial actors in Portugal and from Portuguese-speaking countries (CPLP), Press review, translation and proofreading
- Development of small awareness projects and campaigns

### **Education:**

2003 – 2007: Degree in International Relation - University of Coimbra, Faculty of Economics, Portugal

2006 – 2007: Erasmus Exchange Programme - University of Florence, Italy