



Tuula Haatainen

Deputy Mayor (Education, Culture and Human Resources)

City of Helsinki

Deputy Mayor Tuula Haatainen supervises and oversees the operations of fourteen City of Helsinki departments that employ a total of circa 8,500 people. Her sector is comprised of municipal services in the fields of education, culture, sport and youth. She is also responsible for Helsinki's Human Resources and the City of Helsinki Urban Facts department.

Tuula Haatainen stresses the significance of culture and education as cornerstones of Helsinki's and Finland's success and prosperity. Helsinki's comprehensive Strategy for Culture for the years 2011 – 2017 is being developed under her leadership.

During the past decade, international PISA studies have repeatedly ranked Finland as the global leader in the field of primary and secondary education. In addition to further developing the quality of the Finnish educational system, Tuula Haatainen emphasizes the importance of multidisciplinary youth services that offer Finnish children and teenagers a well-balanced platform for personal and social growth. Ms. Haatainen is an outspoken proponent of gender equality and equal opportunity policies, and also works actively with projects related to advancing Helsinki's international position and the city's global strategies.

Prior to her appointment as Deputy Mayor, Ms. Haatainen served as an MP in the Finnish Parliament. She was Finland's Minister of Education in 2003 - 2005 and Minister of Social Affairs and Health in 2005 - 2007. She has held several important positions of trust both on the municipal and the national level, and from 1989 until 2007 was a member of the Helsinki City Council.

Ms. Haatainen has a master's degree in Social Sciences and is a trained nurse. She was born in 1960 in Vehmersalmi, Finland, and is married with two grown children.