

# **BRIAN SIMPSON,**

Chairman of the Committee on Transport and Tourism, European Parliament



Brian Simpson was first elected to the European Parliament in June 1989. Representing the North West of England, Brian is recognised in the parliament for his work on transport and tourism. He has been a member of the Transport & Tourism Committee since becoming an MEP and is currently one of its longest serving members. From 1991 to 2004, he held the position of Socialist Group spokesperson for Transport & Tourism. He was re-elected to this position in 2008. In 2009 he was appointed the chairperson of the Transport and Tourism Committee.

He is also a member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee where he acts as the British Labour Party spokesperson. He has held other positions within the European Parliament including, the Presidency of the Parliamentary Delegation for relations with Norway, Iceland and Switzerland and Vice President for the delegation with the former Yugoslavia. He is presently an active member of the Parliament's delegation for relations with Australia and New Zealand.

Before becoming a Member of the European Parliament, Brian was a teacher. He was also a County Councillor for Merseyside County Council, a Member of the Merseyside Police Authority and Deputy Chair of Liverpool Airport, Councillor at Warrington Borough Council, where he was Deputy Chair of Finance and Chair of Performance and Policy. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.

His hobbies include most sports (particularly rugby league), Heritage Railways and Military History. Brian is particularly well read on the American Civil War and is a keen member of the Civil War Trust. He is Vice President of the Heritage Railways Association. In 2010, the Commonwealth of Kentucky gave Brian the honour of inducting him as an Honorary Colonel.