



Benedikta von Seherr-Thoß joined the EEAS as Managing Director for Peace, Security and Defence in October 2022.

Before that, she served as Security Policy Director of the German Federal Ministry of Defence (MoD). From 2017, she was EU Representative of the German MoD and Head of the EU Division for four years. She also had the ministerial lead on Germany's EU Council Presidency in 2020. Prior to that, Benedikta worked as Political Advisor to Minister of Defence Ursula von der Leyen for two years in her Cabinet.

From 2013-15, Benedikta was the first defence civilian to participate in the National General/Admiral Staff Officer Course of the German Bundeswehr. This included working in the NATO Liaison Office to the United Nations HQ in New York for six months in 2014.

From 2011-13, she worked as Senior Political Advisor and then Deputy Director to the NATO Senior Civilian Representative at ISAF Headquarters in Kabul/Afghanistan. From 2007-11, she functioned as Deputy Head of the NATO Division in the Policy Planning & Advisory Staff of the Defence Minister. She started her career at NATO Headquarters in 2004, where she worked as Desk Officer in the Political Affairs & Security Policy Division.

Benedikta studied Modern History at the University of Oxford, from where she graduated with a Masters and a PhD.