

## Short biography of Ville Itälä

Ville Itälä is the Director-General of OLAF, the European Anti-Fraud Office.

Mr Itälä has a background in law and law enforcement, holding a Master in Law from Turku University, and a Master in Law with court training from Vehmaa District Court. He was acting Police Commissioner and acting Town Prosecutor of Naantali, Finland from 1985 to 1988, before practising law in a firm until 1995, when he was elected Member of the Finnish Parliament.

Over the 9 years of his Parliamentary career he served as Chair of the National Coalition Party and as well as Vice-Chair of the International Democrat Union, was appointed Minister of the Interior and Deputy Prime Minister of Finland.

In 2004, he was elected into the European Parliament, where he was an active member of the Committees on Budgets and on Transport and Tourism, respectively, as well as Deputy Coordinator of the Committee on Budgetary Control. Between 2004 and 2006, Mr Itälä was also Vice-Chair of the European People's Party and European Democrats' Group in the European Parliament.

Prior to his appointment as Director-General of OLAF in August 2018, Mr Itälä was a Member of the European Court of Auditors (2012-2018).