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Dr Benedikta von Seherr-Thoß is Managing Director for Peace, Security and Defence at the European External Action Service. Until Oct 2022, she served as Security Policy Director of the German Ministry of Defence (MoD). From 2017, she was EU Representative of the German MoD and Head of its EU Division for four years. Prior to that, she worked as Political Advisor to Minister of Defence Ursula von der Leyen. From 2011-13, Benedikta served as Senior Political Advisor and then Deputy Director to the NATO Senior Civilian Representative at ISAF HQ in Kabul/AFG. From 2007-11 she functioned as Deputy Head of the NATO Division in the Policy Planning & Advisory Staff to the Minister of Defence. She started her career at NATO HQ in 2004, where she worked 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.

