

Biography

Mrs Sari Miriam ESSAYAH

Country FIN (Finland)
Born 21 February 1967

Education

Master of Science degree in business administration, University of Vaasa (1995)

Career

Member of the Youth and Temperance Committee, Lapinlahti (Finland) (1988-1990); Part-time teacher, Northern Savo Higher Education College, Iisalmi (Finland) (1990, 1997); Town councillor, Lapinlahti, and member of the Inspection and Culture Committee (1996-2000); Auditor, SVH PricewaterhouseCoopers Oy, Kuopio (Finland) (1997-2000); Business controller, TeliaSonera Finland Oyj/Auria Oy/Turun Puhelin Oy, Turku (Finland) (2000-2007); Member of the Finnish Parliament (2003-2007 and 2009-); Chair of the Christian Democratic Group in the Finnish Parliament (2004-2007); Member of the Council on Ethics, Finnish National Lottery Veikkaus (2004-2008); Member of the Body of Delegates, Kaleva insurance company (2005-); Party secretary, the Finnish Christian Democrats (2007-2009); Member of the Supervisory Board, Kemijoki Oy (Hydropower Company (2015-), Member of the Supervisory Board Finnish State Railways (VR) (2008-2009); Councillor of the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities (2008-2012); Member of the Body of Delegates, Turku Cooperative Society (2008-2012); Town councillor, Paimio (Finland) (2008-2012) and member of Paimio municipal executive (2009); Councillor of Regional Council of Southwest Finland (2009); Member of the European Parliament, EPP-group (2009-2014); Chairperson of the Finnish Christian Democratic Party (2015-)

Sports practised

Race walk

Sports career

World Championships, 10 km: 19th, Rome (Italy) (1987); 3rd, Tokyo (Japan) (1991); 1st, Stuttgart (Germany) (1993); 4th, Gothenburg (Sweden), (1995); **Universiade:** 5,000m, 3rd, Duisburg (Germany) (1989); 10km, 1st, Sheffield (Great Britain) (1991); **European Championships, 10 km:** 5th, Split (Croatia) (1990), 1st, Helsinki (Finland) (1994); **World Race Walking Cup, 10 km:** 16th, San Jose (United States of America) (1991); 2nd, Monterrey (Mexico) (1993); 12th, Beijing (People's Republic of China) (1995); **Olympic Games, 10km:** 4th, Barcelona (Spain) (1992); 16th, Atlanta (United States of America) (1996)

Sports administration

Board member, Finnish Athletics Association (1997-1999); Member, IAAF Race Walking Committee (1998-2015); Member, Economic and Marketing Committee and Race Walking Committee, Finnish Athletics Association (1998-2009); Member of the Ethics Committee, Finnish Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (2004-); Chair, sports development aid NGO Liike (2007-2009); Board member, Athletics Support Foundation (2007-); Member of the Ethics Committee, Finnish Athletics Association (2014-)

Awards and distinctions

Finnish Sportswoman of the Year (1993 and 1994); Alumnus of the year 2004, University of Vaasa; Member of the Honorary Board Helsinki world Championships games (2005); Honorary medal of the Finnish Sport Culture (2009)