






## **Mª HELENA DE FELIPE LEHTONEN**

Born in Madrid with Spanish –Finnish Nationality  
Permanent residence Barcelona-Spain  
**Lawyer, specializing in Corporate Labor Law.**

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### **CURRENT INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Active member of the **EUROPEAN ECONOMIC SOCIAL COMMITTEE**, and member of the **SOC, REX and Chair of the EUROMED follow up Committee** (E.E.S.C)-October 2015-present ([www.eesc.europa.eu](http://www.eesc.europa.eu)).

Vice-President of **SMEunited** (Confederation of European Crafts and SMEs)- Dec2014-present ([www.smeunited.com](http://www.smeunited.com)) and President of the Committee of Legal Affairs. June 2015-present.

Vice-President of **CEPYME** (Confederation of Spanish SMEs) September 2014-present. ([www.cepyme.es](http://www.cepyme.es)).

President of **FEPIME-CATALUNYA** (Catalonian Federation of SMEs) July 2014-present ([www.fepime.cat](http://www.fepime.cat)).

Vice-President of **FOMENT DEL TREBALL** (Catalonian Employers Confederation) July 2014-present ([www.foment.com](http://www.foment.com)).

Member of the Board of **C.E.O.E** (Spanish Employers Confederation) Oct.2014-present ([www.ceoe.es](http://www.ceoe.es))

Set up and current President **AFAEMME** in 2002 (Association of Federations and Associations of Women Entrepreneurs from the Mediterranean) which currently has 63 Member Associations of Businesswomen from 23 Mediterranean countries (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Slovenia, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey)([www.afaemme.org/boardofdirectors.php](http://www.afaemme.org/boardofdirectors.php)).

Co-Chair of Women Commission in **ASCAME** (Federation of Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce) November 2019-present and Member of the Advisory Board of ASCAME October 2014-present ([www.ascame.org](http://www.ascame.org)).

Member of the Advisory Board of **EMEA** (Euro Mediterranean Economists Association) May 2020-present ([www.euromed-economists.org](http://www.euromed-economists.org))

Co-Chair of the Executive Board **ACEE** (Catalan Association of Women Entrepreneurs) June 2010-present ([www.acee.com.es](http://www.acee.com.es)).

### **CURRENT PROFESIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Co-founder of **FES BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING SL**, International Business Consultancy, providing corporate legal services for SMEs companies and consultancy specialized in project management in **Business Gender Equality and Opportunities addressed** to SMEs, organizations and public institutions at regional, national and Euro Mediterranean level, hheadquarter in Barcelona. March 1991-present.

Associate Partner in **ADADE Barcelona**, Business CONSULTING, set up in 1988, focused in giving advice to the small and medium companies, giving a global view in the legal, labor, tax and audit areas. September 2015-present. ([www.adadebarcelona.es](http://www.adadebarcelona.es))

Consultant and mediator as a member of the board for the Employment Tribunal of Catalonia (TLC) 2011-present. ([www.tribulab.cat](http://www.tribulab.cat)).

Member of the Board of the Directors of **MC Mutual**. October 2019-present

## **PAST EXPERIENCES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

Awarded by **ASCAME (Association of Mediterranean Chamber of Commerce)** in November 2016, for contribution to the socio-economic development of the Mediterranean region through women empowerment.

Chosen as one of the **100 European Women Mirrors**, CE Program June 2013. <http://www.100mirrors.eu/portal/100-women/by-country/espana/item/56-maria-elena-de-felipe-lehtonen.html?format=html&lang=es#mi-historia>

As President of Afaemme and a gender and business expert, was the first female entrepreneur to present the conclusions of a gender project in the European Parliament in Brussels in 2004.

The first Spanish representative in the **EUROPEAN COMMISSION** in its Network of Gender Equality in Decision Making positions in economy and politics since 2008. (<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=418&newsId=133&furtherNews=yes>).

Collaborator in the publication "More Women in senior positions, key to economic stability and growth 2010" under the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the E.C. ([www.ec.europa.eu](http://www.ec.europa.eu))

One of the women selected to be a representative of women entrepreneurs in the Exhibit "Women, the Road to the Freedom" in **the Museum of History of Catalanian**.

President of **ACEE** (Association of Women Entrepreneurs from Catalonia) for 8 years ([www.acee.com.es](http://www.acee.com.es)).

Treasurer of **ANIMA** (Association for Business investment in the Mediterranean Area) headquarters in Marseille, June 2010-2012 ([www.animaweb.org/en/activite\\_apropos\\_ugp.php](http://www.animaweb.org/en/activite_apropos_ugp.php)).

**Organized International Meetings** and Conferences on business and gender. The most recent being the X Mediterranean Women Entrepreneurs Forum in Amman-Jordan (October 2018) In addition, organized several networking meetings and participated in various International Forums, Seminars in UNESCO-Paris, Alger, Amman, Brussels, Barcelona, Beirut, Lille, Turin, Thessaloniki, Sofia, Istanbul, Morocco, Guatemala .

Leader of several **International Projects** ([www.afaemme.org](http://www.afaemme.org))

- "Supporting Businesswomen Organizations with the support of the Catalan Government at International Cooperation Projects in Morocco, Guatemala and Nicaragua"
- "Labour market & Entrepreneurship Overcoming Gender Stereotypes"
- "Women Mobility Information Campaign"
- "Women and job mobility: obstacles and solution for women in Information and Communication Technologies".
- "Break gender Stereotypes, give talent a chance"
- "Promotion of Women in Decision-making Positions in the SME'S of Catalonia and Spain"
- "Promoting Women Entrepreneurship in the Universities".
- "Students today, women Entrepreneurs tomorrow".
- "Co- Responsibility and Cooperation".
- "Young Women as Job Creators".
- "She Decides, You Succeed".