

## John Bruton

Former EU Ambassador to the U.S. & Former Prime Minister of Ireland

A dynamic visionary, Ambassador John Bruton has held the fate of European countries in his hands. From his success as the prime minister of Ireland who turned around the country's economy, to his diplomatic relationship with the U.S. as the European Union ambassador to the United States, Ambassador Bruton impresses with his insight and experience in the trenches of global politics and economic policy. He speaks confidently on the entire range of international political and economic issues, particularly relating to trade, finance, energy, and climate change. Exclusively represented in North America by [Leading Authorities speakers bureau](#), Bruton uses his background in approaching regional political issues such as the European debt crisis, the Arab Spring and the Middle East, EU/Russia relations, and relations with Latin America. He is a highly-regarded speaker with a well-developed capacity to explain complex issues in plain language. Ambassador Bruton also has a unique, outsider's perspective on American politics, and he provides candid analysis of the current global political and economic situation. Bruton keeps audiences listening with his congenial air and peerless analytical perspectives. He is particularly enthusiastic about interacting with business leaders and decision-makers all over the world and prizes collaboration and constant learning.

**The Taoiseach.** As prime minister, Bruton helped transform the Irish economy into one of the fastest growing economies in the world. In the year before he took office (1993) the Irish economy grew by 2.7%. During his time as Taoiseach (1994–1997), the Irish economy grew at an annual average rate of 8.7%, peaking at 11.1% in 1997. He was also deeply involved in the Northern Irish Peace Process leading to the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, under whose terms a conflict of allegiances dating back to the seventeenth century was resolved. Ambassador Bruton was also head of one of the European Commission's largest overseas delegations in the U.S.

**An Irishman in Washington.** In his time as ambassador, Bruton met with presidents of the United States and visited with governors, mayors, business leaders, and students in more than 20 states to explain why a strong European Union is good for the U.S. economy and for American jobs. He also met with over 250 members of Congress to explain major EU developments and to discuss the importance of the EU-U.S. relationship in matters of trade, counterterrorism, public health, energy, the environment, and the promotion of peace, democracy, and human rights.

**More About Ambassador Bruton.** Ambassador Bruton is a member of the boards of Ingersoll Rand, the Irish Diaspora Loan Origination Fund, Smart Invest PLC, the Irish Institute for International and European Affairs, and the Centre for European Policy Studies. He is chairman of the Public Interest Oversight Body of Deloitte in Ireland and international director of Europa Strategic Partners. He is also a distinguished fellow at the Centre for Transatlantic Relations. Additionally, he acts as an advisor to Fairobserver, focusing mainly on the areas of politics, finance, and economics, as well as on issues pertaining to Europe. He has a specialized knowledge of the processes surrounding the United Kingdom's proposed exit from the European Union, and of the economic policy of the Euro. From 2010 to 2015, Bruton was chairman of IFSC Ireland, a private-sector body set up to develop the financial services industry in Ireland.