Tarja Halonen served two terms as President of Finland from 2000 to 2012. During her presidency, she was co-chair of the UN Millennium Summit, co-chair of the Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization, and co-chair of the UN High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability. She served as Minister of Social Affairs and Health, Minister of Justice, and Minister for Foreign Affairs and over her political career, she has paid close attention to promotion of sustainable development, democracy, human rights, and the role of civil society. Strengthening social justice and gender equality have been central themes. She is also active in academic life, chairing the Board of the University of Helsinki. She continues to work closely with the UN, and is currently member of the Secretary-General’s Advisory Board on Mediation. Among other duties, she is also alternate co-chair of the Every Woman Every Child Movement’s Steering Group, UN Global Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction and UN Drylands Ambassador.