

Raenette Taljaard is a former DA MP and was the Shadow Minister of Finance from 2002, and a member of the Portfolio Committee on Finance. She also served on numerous other parliamentary committees, including the Standing Committee on Public Accounts during the arms deal investigation. In 1999, at the age of 25, she was the youngest woman to have been elected to the South African parliament. Raenette is a Yale World Fellow, a Fellow of the Emerging Leaders Programme of the Centre for Leadership and Public Values (UCT's Graduate School of Business and Duke University), and a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum. She serves on the Global Agenda Council on Africa of the World Economic Forum. Raenette holds a BA in Law, a BA (Honours) in Political Science, cum laude, and an MA in Political Science (International Relations) cum laude, all from the Rand Afrikaans University, and an MSc in Public Administration and Public Policy, cum laude, from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Raenette was the Director of The Helen Suzman Foundation for the 2006-2009 term. She lectures part-time at the Wits Graduate School of Public and Development Management in areas ranging from public finance to regulation and peace keeping and peace enforcement. She is also an alumnus of the Prince of Wales Business and Environment Programme (University of Cambridge Programme and Industry), and lectures extensively, locally and abroad, on the privatization of security, military outsourcing and the need for regulation. Ms Taljaard is an independent analyst and consultant. She writes a weekly column 'Second Take' for The Times.