Biography

Shriti Vadera

Somerville College, PPE, 1981-1984

Shriti Vadera is the Chair of Prudential plc and Chair of The Royal Shakespeare Company. She was previously the chair of Santander UK, a director of AstraZeneca and senior independent director of BHP.

Shriti has over 40 years of experience spanning public and private sectors, in the UK and internationally. After reading PPE at Somerville College, she was an investment banker for 15 years with a particular focus on emerging markets. She joined the Council of Economic Advisers, HM Treasury in 1999, leading on policy areas for business, productivity, private finance, and international development issues. From 2007-2009, she was a UK government minister in the Cabinet Office, Business Department and International Development Department. She was best known for leading the UK government's response to the financial crisis, as a key architect of its pioneering bank recapitalization and funding plan in 2008, and helped design the outcomes of the G20 London Summit in 2009. She then undertook a wide range of assignments including advising the South Korean Chair of the G20 in 2010 and a range of institutions and global investors on strategy.

She currently also co-chairs, with Mark Carney, the World Bank Private Sector Investment Lab, which advises on ways to leverage the World Bank's interventions to scale up private finance mobilisation for climate and development in emerging markets. Alongside Sir Peter Bazalgette, she is co-chair of the UK government's Creative Industries Taskforce to help develop the UK's creative industries growth strategy, and will assume the chair of the Creative Industries Council in the summer 2025.