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Sandra L. “Sandy” Hodgkinson is the Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Chief of Staff at Leonardo North America and Leonardo DRS. In this role, she is Chief of Staff to the CEO, and leads the development and execution of the DRS annual strategic plan working closely with the CEO, COO, CFO, business units, and Leonardo leadership. Ms. Hodgkinson is also DRS’ Sustainability Ambassador for Leonardo.

Ms. Hodgkinson previously served as a civil servant achieving the rank of Senior Executive Service in the U.S. Government, including assignments at Department of Defense (DoD), State Department and the White House. These assignments included: Special Assistant (Chief of Staff) to the Deputy Secretary of Defense; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (DASD); Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow at the National Defense University (NDU); Deputy to the Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues; Director for International Justice at the National Security Council (NSC); and Senior Advisor at the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), in Baghdad, Iraq. Among her awards are DoD’s highest career civilian award, the Distinguished Civilian Service Award, and four State Department Superior Honor Awards.

Prior to the civil service, Ms. Hodgkinson spent six years as a U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps officer, as an appellate clerk at the Navy Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals, a Prosecutor and International Law Officer in Naples, Italy, and a Country Program Director, Defense Institute of International Legal Studies (DIILS), Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), where she trained foreign military and civilians in over 30 countries. Following fourteen years in the reserves, she is a Captain, and is currently the Commanding Officer of the Navy Reserve International and Operational Law unit.

Ms. Hodgkinson has written more than fifteen legal articles and six book chapters, and has been adjunct teaching national security law at Catholic University’s Law School since 2007. She is on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the ABA Cybersecurity Task Force. She has a J.D. from the University of Denver (DU); an M.A. from DU’s Graduate School of International Studies; and a B.A. from Tulane University. She also studied abroad at the Hague Academy of International Law; l’Institut d’Etudes Politiques (“Sciences Po”), Paris, and in Cuernavaca, Mexico, and speaks French, Spanish and intermediate Italian.

Ms. Hodgkinson is married with four children and resides in Alexandria, Virginia.