NANCY MCKINSTRY

Major Career Roles

CEO, Wolters Kluwer N.V.
Chair, Wolters Kluwer N.V.

Other Career Highlights

Lead Independent Director, Abbott Laboratories
Non-Executive Director, Accenture and Mondelēz International

Nancy McKinstry is the long-serving Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Executive Board at Wolters Kluwer N.V. a role she has held since 2003. In February 2026, she stepped down, concluding a landmark 23-year tenure that transformed the business from a traditional publisher into one of the world's most advanced providers of professional information, software, and services.

Under Nancy's leadership, Wolters Kluwer evolved from a traditional print publisher into a digital information provider and is now at the forefront of the company's evolution into an AI-driven media enterprise. Wolters Kluwer is now a digital-first organisation, with over 90% of revenues coming from digital and expert solutions. Nancy's impact has been recognised globally – she has featured in the Harvard Business Review's list of Best-Performing CEOs and Fortune's Most Powerful Women International rankings. She was the first American and the first woman to lead the Dutch multinational and remains one of the longest-standing CEOs in the AEX index.
Earlier in her career, Nancy held senior roles within Wolters Kluwer North America, including CEO of Legal Information Services and President of CCH Incorporated, having joined the group in 1999. Before that, she was with Booz Allen Hamilton (now Strategy&) where she advised leading media and technology clients on growth strategy and digital innovation.

She is currently Lead Independent Director of Abbott Laboratories, and a Non-Executive Director at Accenture and Mondelēz International (all listed on the S&P100). She is also a member of the J.P. Morgan International Council, she is a member of the European Round Table for Industry (ERT), and the Board of Overseers at Columbia Business School – where she earned her MBA in Finance and Marketing.

Nancy also holds a BA in Economics from the University of Rhode Island and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws in 2005. Nancy previously sat on the boards of Ericsson and Sanoma OYJ.

She brings deep cross-sector expertise in:

• Corporate strategy execution – Formulating and translating long-term strategy into actionable plans, with a strong track record in aligning teams and stakeholders around strategic goals.

• Business transformation & digital reinvention – Leading Wolters Kluwer's evolution from a print-based publisher to a data, and AI-driven software business, guiding adoption of emerging technologies at scale.

• Technology & innovation Leadership – applying advanced digital and AI solutions to core operations; contributing board-level tech insight at Accenture and across multiple global firms.

• Stakeholder management & capital markets communication – navigating investor expectations and market pressures with clarity and credibility, especially during complex change or performance cycles.

• Cross-border leadership & talent development – building inclusive, high-performing executive teams across the US, Europe, and global markets.

Renowned for her disciplined, adaptive leadership style, McKinstry has championed agility, culture, and clarity of purpose through complex cycles of change. Her board experience and operational depth make her a trusted mentor to CEOs and directors navigating the intersection of technology, governance, and global growth.