Murdoch MacLennan has been Chief Executive of the Telegraph Media Group since October 2004, having previously been Group Managing Director of Associated Newspapers. Born and educated in Scotland, he began his career as a graduate trainee at The Scotsman in Edinburgh and worked in the Thomson Regional Newspapers offices in Newcastle, South Wales and Reading. In 1982 he joined the Board of the Scottish Daily Record and Sunday Mail as Production Director, before taking senior positions in London with the Mirror Group and Express Newspapers. He later returned to Scotland in the early nineties as Managing Director of the Scottish Daily Record and Sunday Mail before taking the position with Associated Newspapers in the mid-nineties. He was President of IFRA (the global technical association for newspapers) from 1997-2003 and became a vice president of the World Association of Newspapers. From 2005-07 he was Chairman of the Newspaper Publishers Association.

He is a vigorous supporter of Higher Education and is keenly aware of the key part it plays in Business and the Global Economy. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Paisley, where he was instrumental in establishing the Chair in Environmental Paper Technologies. He has a long-standing relationship with the University of Glasgow, and was Honorary Professor at the Business School for twelve years and a member of the Business School Advisory Board.

He is involved in a number of charities including the Journalists’ Charity and NewstrAid. In 2008-9 he was a member of the Calman Commission, which reported earlier in the summer of 2009 on the future of Scottish devolution. He became chairman of the Press Association in 2010.