

Zdzislaw KEDZIA (Poland)

Date and place of birth: 2 July 1943, Radom, Poland

Working languages: Polish (mother tongue), English (fluent), German (strong command) and Russian (working knowledge)

Education

1966: Master of Law, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland

1972: Doctor of Law, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland

1980: Habilitated Doctor of Law — Institute of Legal Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences

1992: Professor of Law — academic title given by the President of the State

1996: Honorary Professor of the University in Hagen, Germany

Main professional activities

Academic and expert activities

Until 2006, Professor at the Institute of Legal Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, member of the Scientific Board of the Institute

1989-1991, Expert adviser to the Parliament on human rights and constitutional matters

Expert on human rights and constitutional matters at the Round Table Talks between the Communist Government and the Solidarity Opposition in 1989

1987-1991, Expert adviser to the Commissioner for Citizens' Rights

Member of the Boards of the Institute of Federalism of Fribourg University, Switzerland, and of the Institute for German and European Law on Political Parties, Düsseldorf University, Germany

Coordinator of research projects concerning human rights at Polish and foreign academic institutions

Lectures at universities in Austria, Brazil, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America

Research on human rights at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation fellowship) and at the Law Faculty of the University of Zürich (Faculty fellowship)

Founder and editor of academic journals related to the international protection of human rights

Experience in international organizations

2002-2005: Chief of the Research and Right to Development Branch in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva

1999-2001: Chief a.i. of the Programmes and Activities Branch in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva

1994-1999: Senior Adviser to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva

Experience in diplomatic service

1991-1994: Minister-Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations Office at Geneva

1991-1994: Alternate Member of the Venice Commission “Democracy through Law”

1994: Rapporteur of the forty-ninth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights

1993: General Rapporteur of the Second World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna

1993: Representative of Poland to the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly

1992-1993: Vice-Chairman of the Council of Europe Ad Hoc Committee dealing with the preparation for the World Conference on Human Rights

1992-1993: Head of the Delegation of Poland to the forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights

1991-1993: Rapporteur of the Preparatory Committee of the World Conference on Human Rights

1990-1991: Senior Adviser on Human Rights to the Foreign Minister of Poland

1990-1991: Representative of Poland to the Steering Committee on Human Rights of the Council of Europe

Current position/function

Since December 2005: Professor, Chair of Constitutional Law, Faculty of Law and Administration, Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań, Poland; teaching subjects: constitutional law, human rights

Since October 2006: National Director of the European Master’s Programme in Human Rights (E.MU)