Ivan Šimonović (Croatia)

Date and place of birth: 2 May 1959, Zagreb, Croatia

Working languages: Croatian, English, German, Italian.

Current position or function

PR of Croatia to the United Nations in New York / Zagreb Law School Professor (returning to active academic duty in 2024)

Chair of the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) (2023–2024)

Vice-president of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) (2023–2024)

Member of the International Commission Against the Death Penalty (ICDP)

Director General of the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik (IUC) and the co-director of the course on Atrocity Crimes Prevention and Human Rights

Main professional activities

University of Zagreb Law School professor of Legal theory, Human rights, and International relations, published over one hundred books and articles (1986–to date)

Visiting professor: Brisbane, Leeds and Penn (2016–2020)

Special Adviser of the UNSG on Responsibility to Protect (2016–2018)

Senior Visiting Scholar and Fellow, Columbia University, New York (2016–2018)

UN Assistant Secretary General for Human Rights, Head of NY Office (2010–2016)

Minister of Justice of the Republic of Croatia (2008–2010)

Agent of Croatia before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) (2000–2010)

Vice-Rector Zagreb University (2007–2008), Law School Vice-Dean (2005–2006)

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Croatia (2003–2004 and 2005–2006)

PR of Croatia (1996–2002) and President of ECOSOC (2002–2003)

Education

1994 – Research fellowship, Law School, University of Graz, Austria

1993 – Fulbright postdoctoral fellowship, Yale Law School, New Haven, USA

1990 – Ph.D., Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia

1984 – Master’s Degree in Public Administration, Zagreb, Croatia

1982 – Bachelor of Laws Degree, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Other main activities relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned

Advisory Board, Auschwitz Institute (2022–to date)

Co-chair of the Group of Friends of R2P at the UN in New York (2021–to date)

Co-coordinator of all UNGA COVID-19 pandemic related activities (2021–2022)

Advisory Board, Global Centre for R2P (2019–to date)

Chief organizer of UN events on moving away from death penalty (2013–2016)

Commission for Democracy through Law, CoE (2009)

European Commission against Racial Discrimination and Intolerance CoE (2008)

Head of delegation, First Special Session of the UN HR Commission (1993)

Vice-President (Croatia), of the World Conference on Human Rights (1993)

Plenipotentiary of Croatia on humanitarian issues during conflict (1992–1995)

Most recent publications in the field

Do we need the UN? Zbornik PFZ, 73, (2–3) 561–591 (2023)

Towards Evidence Based Atrocity Prevention (with Bellamy, A. J), *Journal of International Peacekeeping*, 24, (3–4), 285–566 (2021)

Why does fight against the death penalty matter? Zbornik PFZ, 70, (2–3) (2020)

Atrocity Crimes and Preventive Diplomacy, Global Center for R2P (2020)

Das OHCHR als Prometheus? German Review on the UN, Vol. 66, No. 6 (2018)