



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA



Court Administration of the Republic of Latvia

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2022 OECD Global Access to Justice Roundtable

21-22 September 2022, Riga, Latvia

High-Level Delegates

Jānis Bordāns

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice, Latvia



EDUCATION:

2010 - University of Latvia, Master of Social Sciences in Law
September 1985 – June 1992 (interruption 1985 –1987, compulsory military service) - University of Latvia, Faculty of Law, specialisation in law, lawyer qualification

FURTHER EDUCATION:

1999 - BARENTS Group, LLC, USAID Arbitrator Training Program in Rīga
August 1996 – December 1996 - University of London, Academic Studies Programme, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Law firm Linklaters & Paines

WORK EXPERIENCE :

November 2018 – until now - Member of the Saeima, Member of the Rīga City Council

July 2017 – November 2018 - Chairman of the New Conservative Party parliamentary group

July 2012 – January 2014 - Minister for Justice

December 1996 – until now (suspended for the period of parliamentary term) - Sworn advocate in the law firm WALL (previously named Bordāns and Beļajevs)

November 2011 – July 2012 - Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice

June 2010 – November 2010 - Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister

December 1995-December 1996 – State Non-profit Limited Liability Company Latvijas Televīzija, Advisor for Legal Affairs to Director General

May 1994 – November 1995 - Member of the Saeima, Member of the Legal Affairs Committee, Member of the Central Land Commission

September 1993 – December 1996 - Assistant to Advocate at the Maija Sibilla Blauberģa's Office of Sworn Advocates

September 1992 –September 1993 - Ministry of Foreign Trade International Agreements Division, Chief Expert

September 1990 – September 1992 - Prosecution Office of Vidzeme Judicial Region, Assistant to Prosecutor

LANGUAGE SKILLS :

Latvian – native, English – good command, Russian – fluent



BELGIUM

Jean Paul Janssens

President, Federal Public Service Justice

President of the Direction Committee of the Federal Public Service Justice since 15 March 2013, Brussels.

Belgian member of the CEPEJ since 2020.

- President and vice-president of the Committee for the Modernization of the Judicial Order from 1 March 2007 to 28 February 2013, Brussels.
- In this position, member of the Management Board of the Judicial Training Institute from 1 January 2009 to 28 February 2013.
- Deputy Director of the strategic cell of the Minister of Justice from 12 July 2003 to 23 December 2007.
- Assistant lecturer to the Department of Economic and Social Law of the Faculty of Law of the U.C.L. from 1 October 1991 to 30 September 2003.
- Counsellor to the cabinet of the Minister of Employment from 5 September 1999 to 10 July 2003.
- Magistrate at the Labour prosecutor's Office of Nivelles since 30 September 1993.
- Lawyer at the Nivelles bar from 1 May 1989 to 30 September 1993.
- Active in the private sector from 1978 to April 1989.

BULGARIA

Emil Dechev

Deputy Ministry of Justice



Emil Dechev holds a master's degree in law from the Saint Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia.

From 1997 to 2000, he was an investigator in the Metropolitan Investigation Service, after which he was a judge in the Pleven District Court for 3 years.

From 2003 to 2011, he was a judge in the Sofia District Court.

From 2012 until he took office as deputy minister, he was a judge in the Sofia City Court.

In the period 2006-2007, he was a program advisor in the "Legal" and "Human Rights" department of the Council of Europe.

In 2009, he did an internship at the Court of the European Union in Luxembourg under the European Judicial Training Network.



CANADA

Michael Sousa

Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy Sector, Justice Canada

In February 2022, Michael Sousa became the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister of the Policy Sector.

Michael joined the Department of Justice in 2001 with what was then Citizenship and Immigration Legal Services Unit (LSU), where he worked on litigation coordination and preparing the client for the implementation of the new Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. With the events of 9/11 and the creation of the Canada Borders Services Agency (CBSA), Michael was part of the original group that established the new agency's LSU.

After assisting the CBSA in its new role, Michael was Special Advisor to PSDI ADMO where supported various projects, including the implementation of the Special Advocates Program with Justice's Programs Branch. Soon after, Michael joined the Environment Canada LSU as Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel, where he spent five years, including acting as Executive Director when the Environment Canada LSU merged with those of Parks Canada and the Canada Environmental Assessment Agency.

In 2015, Michael moved to the LSU at Public Safety, where he spent two years working with colleagues in the unit and the Public Safety Portfolio to support the Minister of Public Safety, notably with Bill C-59, the National Security Act. Michael's most recent assignment was as Executive Director of the Department of National Defence LSU and Legal Advisor to the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces for four and a half years.

CROATIA

Josip Salapić

State Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Administration

Personal information

- Born: born on March 13, 1976 in Osijek
- married, father of two children

Work experience

- 2020 - State Secretary at the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration
- 2020 - representative in the Croatian Parliament, 10th assembly, until July 31, 2020.
- 2017 - 22.7.2020: State Secretary at the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration
- 2017 (from May 11, 2017): Executive Director of the Croatian Post Office
- 2009 – 2017: Member of the Croatian Parliament: 6th assembly, 7th assembly, 8th assembly, 9th assembly (until May 10, 2017).
- 2008 – 2012: Croatian Post Office, Executive director of the Post center in Osijek, Vice President of the Post Office for Osijek-Baranja County, Advisor to the President of the HP Management Board.



- 2001 – 2009: Josip Juraj Strossmayer University, Faculty of Law in Osijek, research assistant, junior assistant, assistant at the Department of Historical and Legal Sciences, History of the Croatian State and Law.

Education

- 2000 – 2006: Faculty of Law in Osijek, Master of Legal Sciences - postgraduate studies in financial law and financial transactions
- 1996 – 2000: Faculty of Law in Osijek, graduate in law

Other

- During his time as a representative, he actively participated in the work of several parliamentary committees, delegations and commissions of the Croatian Parliament and held the position of a member of the State Judicial Council and the State Bar Council as a member of parliament
- Fluent in English

JAPAN

Takashi Kikkawa

Assistant Vice-Minister, Ministry of Justice

Takashi Kikkawa is Assistant Vice-Minister of Justice of Japan. He has been in his position since 2021 and manages policy planning and coordination.

He started his professional career as a public prosecutor of the Tokyo District Public Prosecutor's Office in 1995.

His subsequent professional experiences include inter alia managing the project to amend the Criminal Procedure Law as Counsellor of the Minister's Secretariat, coordinating policy as Director of the Judicial System Division, Director of the General Affairs Division of the Criminal Affairs Bureau and managing evidence-based policymaking as Director of the Minister's Secretariat Secretarial Division.



LATVIA

Irēna Kucina

Vice-President, Constitutional Court

Irēna Kucina was born on 19 March 1981.

Irēna Kucina studied at the Faculty of Law of the University of Latvia, where she obtained a master's degree in law in 2007 and a PhD in law in 2011.

Irēna Kucina built her career in the public administration. She has exercised the functions of Deputy State Secretary for Justice in the Ministry of Justice, where she had the leading role in the development of judicial policy, thus ensuring the development and capacity building of the judiciary. From 2016 to 2019, she was the representative of the Republic of Latvia before the Court of Justice of the European Union. From 2019, she was the Deputy Head of the Office of the President of Latvia and Head of the Office of the President's Advisers, as well as the Adviser to the President on Justice and European Union Law.

Irēna Kucina has a long academic and scientific experience. In 2016, she was elected an associate professor at the University of Latvia, Faculty of Law. She has presented papers at a number of scientific conferences in Latvia and abroad, as well as conducted several studies and participated as a project manager and expert



in projects on strengthening the judiciary in the European Union member states and third countries.

Since 2016 she is a member of the Board of Trustees of ERA (Academy of European Law).

Irēna Kucina is author of numerous scientific publications in Latvian and English in the field of European Union law, private international law, rights of the child, as well as issues related to artificial intelligence and digitization of the judicial system. In 2020, she published a monograph: "Civil Aspects of Cross-Border Child Abduction: The Child between Parents and States". In her recent scientific publications, she focuses on the interaction between national constitutional courts and the Court of Justice of the European Union, as well as on the challenges to the rule of law in the European Union.

On 9 December 2021, Irēna Kucina was confirmed as the Justice of the Constitutional Court. She entered office on 11 February 2022.

On 10 March 2022 Irēna Kucina was elected Vice-President of the Constitutional Court.

LITHUANIA

Jurga Greičienė

Vice-Minister of Justice

Professional experience

2020 December: Vice Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania

2019 – 2020: Head of Judicial Justice and Civil Law Group of the Ministry of Justice

2012 – 2019: Director of Legal System Department of the Ministry of Justice

2004 – 2012: Deputy Director of Private Law Department of the Ministry of Justice

2001 – 2004: Chief Specialist of Private Law Department of the Ministry of Justice

2001 – 2008: Assistant at Civil Law and Civil Process Department, Law Faculty of Vilnius University

1999 – 2001: Chief Specialist of Law Department of the Ministry of Justice

1998 – 1999: Secretary of Legal Department of the Ministry of Justice

Education

2000 Unfinished doctorate in law at Vilnius University

2000 – 2001 m. Master in Law, Munster University

1994 – 1999 Legal professional qualification





MALTA

Johan Galea

Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Justice Equality and Governance

Johan Galea joined the Public Service in the grade of a teacher in 1991. He served in both the primary and secondary streams. Between 2004 and 2007 he was appointed Assistant Head of School. He carried out duties in this position at the Għaxaq Primary School and at the Marsascala Primary School. In 2007 he was placed as Acting Head of School of Żejtun Primary B and subsequently was appointed Head of School in the same school.

In 2009 Mr Galea was appointed Assistant Director Support Services in the Planning and Priorities Coordination Division within the Office of the Prime Minister. Following this, in 2012, he was appointed Director Corporate Services within the Ministry for Fair Competition, Small Business and Consumers and in 2013 he occupied the same role within the Ministry for European Affairs and Implementation of the Electoral Manifesto. In 2015 Mr Galea was appointed Director Corporate Affairs within the Arts Council Malta. In 2016 he was promoted to Permanent Secretary within the Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government. In January 2020 this Ministry was redesignated to the Ministry for Justice, Equality and Governance. The Ministry was redesignated as Ministry for Justice in April 2022. In February 2022 he was appointed Permanent Secretary within the Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects.

Mr Johan Galea graduated from the University of Malta with a B.A. (Gen) Degree in Psychology and Sociology and also holds a Post Graduate Certificate in Education and a Diploma in Educational Administration and Management.

MOLDOVA

Veronica Mihailov-Moraru

Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice

Date and place of birth: September 29, 1982, Chisinau

Marital status: Married, 1 child

Studies

2001 - 2005 - Bachelor of Law, speciality: Criminal Law, State University of Moldova

2005 - 2006 - Master in International Law, State University of Moldova

2012, July - Graduation of the Strategic Litigation Course in the field of Human Rights, at CEU, Budapest

2009 - 2010 - Graduation of the European Institute of Political Studies from the Republic of Moldova as an audience

Professional experience

30.08.2019 – present: Secretary of State of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Moldova

2017, October - 2019, August: Lawyer, CA "Mihailov-Moraru Veronica", in collaboration with the Law Firm "Digore", consulting and representation on criminal and civil cases.

2018, December - 2019, September: President, Amnesty International Moldova Council

2017, May - 2019, September: Member of the Council of the Association of Women Lawyers of the Republic of Moldova



2009 – 2011: Lawyer within the project „Advocacy for Human Rights in the context of the crisis related to the parliamentary elections of April 2009 in the Republic of Moldova”, Institute for Human Rights of Moldova NGO.

2005, September - 2019, August: Consultant and expert in several human rights projects, implemented by non-governmental organizations, such as Soros Foundation-Moldova, Amnesty International, Norlam Mission, Association for Participatory Criminal Justice, Unicef Moldova, National Council of Youth of the Republic of Moldova, American Bar Association, Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture "Memory", Institute of Criminal Reforms, etc.

2008, July - 2014, August: Public Advocate, BAA „Public Advocates”, specializing in providing legal assistance in criminal cases, in cases of strategic litigation of human rights violations and systemic issues.

2014 - 2017: Lawyer, BAA „VOCAȚIE”

2015, September - 2016, January: member and chairman of the Licensing Commission of the Bar Association of the Republic of Moldova

2006, December - 2008, June: Lawyer, Associated Bar of the „Institute of Criminal Reforms”

2005, December - 2006, December: internship in law, Associated Bar Association attached to the „Institute of Criminal Reforms”

Main publications

Co-Author of the Report on the importance and role of probation programs at the national level, AJPP, October 2018

Co-author of the Guide for professionals in the criminal justice system The role of the face-to-face report on the assessment of human personality, AJPP, June 2018

Co-author of the Legal Opinion (amicus curiae) to the Venice Commission of May 17, 2017 by the Moldovan diaspora, on changing the electoral system and the effects on voters abroad

Co-author of the Alternative Report on Violations of Economic and Social Rights, in particular Discrimination against Women Lawyers and Lawyers in General in the Republic of Moldova to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, AFAM

Co-author of the Lawyer's Guide, Protection of Victims of Torture, Ill-Treatment or Degrading Treatment, in collaboration with ABA ROLLI, May 2013

Research study The course of a suspicious child through the criminal justice system of the Republic of Moldova, Terre des Hommes Republic of Moldova, April 2017

Co-author of the Stop Torture Guide. Practical advice for citizens, in collaboration with Amnesty International, May 2013

Co-author of the Interdisciplinary Study / Report Torture and Ill-Treatment of Children in the Context of Juvenile Justice, in collaboration with Memoria Medical Center, Unicef, CpDOM, April 2013

Lawyer of the People's Advocate. Lawyer's defense guide on criminal cases, April 2012

Languages

Romanian (mother tongue), Russian, English, French.



PORTUGAL

Pedro Tavares

State Secretary of Justice, Ministry of Justice

Since April 2022, Pedro Tavares is the Portuguese Secretary of State for Justice. Previously, he worked as General Coordinator at eBUPi - Simplified Land Digital Registry Mission Unit, the Portuguese public agency responsible for the expansion of a new cadaster and registry initiative using a digital approach (Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Environment). BUPi won several projects, namely Cities and Territories of the Future by APDC; Best Digital Transformation APDSI; Apolitical Global Public Service Team of the Year - Runner-Up; and OECD innovation best practice mention.

From 2015 to 2020 he was a Senior Advisor at the cabinets of the Minister of Justice and of the Secretary of State for Justice, where he managed different innovation and transformative projects and policies, including a Justice Innovation Lab, transparency and participation projects, or new digital Citizen-centric services. He acted as the Ministry's contact point for the OECD report on Justice Innovation in Portugal and for several international projects with the European Commission.

In the public sector, Pedro worked on innovation projects such as the new concept for the citizens' one-stop shops (Lojas de Cidadão), or the Citizens' Portal. He has had different positions focused on digital transformation and innovation, including roles managing digital services, communication, transparency and participation initiatives.

Pedro also worked in the private sector as marketing & innovation director at different IT companies, including Vision-Box, PHC Software and Inetum.

Moreover, he was a digital marketing & communications trainer at INA and Lisbon Digital School, and a guest lecturer at Universidade Católica Portuguesa and Instituto Politécnico de Santarém.

Pedro holds a master's degree in Digital by Universidade Nova de Lisboa, a post-graduation in Business Administration by ISEG - Lisbon School of Economics & Management, a BA in Communication Studies by Universidade Nova de Lisboa and an advanced course in Digital Innovation by The University of Chicago.

ROMANIA

Mihai Pasca

State Secretary, Ministry of Justice



SPAIN

Manuel Olmedo Palacios

General Secretary for Innovation and Quality of the Public Service of Justice, Ministry of Justice

He entered the Judicial Career in 2003 and has held various positions in the judiciary and magistracy until 2021 in Asturias, Catalonia and Madrid.

He has also served as a lawyer for the General Council of the Judiciary, within the Judicial School, as responsible for the selection and specialization of judges, prosecutors and magistrates in Spain and between 2009 and 2015.

As a lawyer of the CGPJ, he has been a member and coordinator of the Working Groups for the Reform of Access to Judicial and Prosecutor Careers (2010-2012), for the implementation of the Plan of Transparency and Access to Information of the CGPJ (2013-2015) and for the elaboration of the Principles of Judicial Ethics (2013-2015).

Between 2015 and 2021, he has served as Magistrate of Territorial Assignment of the Superior Court of Justice of Madrid, assigned to the Criminal Courts of Móstoles and in various Criminal Sections of the Provincial Court of Madrid.

He has also taught as Honorary Professor of Criminal Law at the Carlos III University of Madrid.

Internationally, he has developed an intense work in the field of criminal judicial cooperation both within the European Union and with third countries.

He has been an evaluator for the Council of the European Union in the 9th Mutual Evaluation Round on the implementation and application of criminal cooperation instruments in the Member States of the European Union in the field of deprivation or restriction of liberty.

THAILAND

Naree Tantasathien

Attorney General (incoming), Office of the Attorney General

EDUCATION

1989 Master in International and Comparative Law, Vrije Universiteit of Brussel, Belgium (Belgium Government Scholarship)

1984 Master of Laws in International Legal Studies, American University, USA

1982 Master of Comparative Jurisprudence, Howard University, USA

1980 Barrister at Law, Thai Bar Association

1976 –1979 Bachelor of Laws, Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

POSITIONS IN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

1 October 2020 – current Director General, Department of Legal Counsel

1 October 2018 –30 September 2020 Deputy Director General,



Department of Legal Counsel

1 October 2015 –30 September 2018 Executive Director,
Executive Director's Office of Contract and Legal Advice 3,
Department of Legal Counsel

11 June 2014 –30 September 2015 Secretary to the Attorney
General

1 October 2011 –10 June 2014 Secretary to the Deputy Attorney
General (Mr. Trakul Vinitnaiyapak)

1990 –September 2011 Senior Expert Public Prosecutor,
Department of Legal Counsel 1986 –1990 Public Prosecutor,
Department of Criminal Litigation

1985 –1986 Assistant Public Prosecutor, Department of Thonburi
Criminal Litigation

UZBEKISTAN

Muzraf Ikramov

Deputy Minister of Justice



Muzraf IKRAMOV was born in 1973 in Tashkent. Education - higher, in specialty - lawyer. In 1995 he graduated from the Tashkent State Law Institute, in 2007 he graduated from the Academy of State and Social Construction under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Muzraf IKRAMOV began his career in 1995 as a senior consultant with the Department for Preparation and Legal Expertise of Draft Legislative and Regulatory Acts in the Sphere of Economic Reforms of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Later he worked in the positions of Head of the Main Legislative Department of the Ministry of Justice - Head of the Legal Information Centre at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In 2008-2012, he worked as a head of the division of legal expertise and international treaties of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Then, between 2012–2013, he served as a head of the sector for interaction with the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis, head of the sector for interaction with political and public organizations of the Office of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. From 2013 to 2015 he worked as the First Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In 2015-2017 he held the post of Minister of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan, later, in 2017-2019 - Chairman of the Accounts Chamber of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Then, in 2019-2020 - Head of the Department of Justice of the Kashkadarya region.

In May 25, 2020, Muzraf Ikramov was appointed to the position of Deputy Minister of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

ESTONIA

Heddi Lutterus

Deputy Secretary General, Legislative Policy Department,
Ministry of Justice



FINLAND

Johanna Suurpää

Director General, Department for Democracy and Public Law

Long and diverse career in public administration and human rights, including independent Minority Ombudsman, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice and the World Bank. Areas of expertise include human rights and the rule of law, democracy as well as equality and minority issues.

2019 – (ongoing): Director General, Department for Public Law and Democracy, Ministry of Justice

2010 -2019: Director for Democracy, Language Affairs and Fundamental Rights, Ministry of Justice

2013 – 2014: Senior expert in human rights and development. The World Bank, Washington D.C.



GERMANY

David Bartels

Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Germany in Latvia

Born 1974 in Oldenburg; married, three children

Since July 2020: German Embassy Riga, Deputy Head of Mission

2018 –20: Federal Foreign Office Berlin, Deputy Head of the Latin America Division

2016 –18: Federal Foreign Office Berlin, Head of the Department for Further Training

2012 –16: German Embassy in Washington, Desk Officer for political affairs

2009 –12: Federal Foreign Office Berlin, Head of the Task Force for EU-Relations with Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus

2005 –09: German Embassy Budapest, Desk Officer for political affairs and protocol

2002 –05: Federal Foreign Office Berlin, Desk Officer at the State Secretaries' Office

2001: entrance into the Federal Foreign Service, Attaché

2000: graduation, Bonn and Hamburg, M. A. Political Science, History, Constitutional Law

NETHERLANDS

Anneke Van Dijk

Director General, Administration of Justice and Law Enforcement, Ministry of Justice and Security



POLAND

Aleksandra Rusin-Batko

Director, Department of Strategy and European Funds,
Ministry of Justice

Director of the Department of Strategy and European Funds at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Poland where she supervises inter alia Mediation Unit, Statistical and Management Control Unit and Strategy Unit.

Judge, PhD student at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, a graduate of postgraduate studies in Evidence Law at the University of Warsaw.

Participant of the first edition of the international program Synergia - a network for cooperation and exchange of experience between high - level officials from Central and Eastern Europe.

She conducts lectures with students in the field of criminal law and petty offenses law. Author of many publications on criminal law and alternative dispute resolution. Participant and organizer of international and national conferences.

SLOVENIA

Matija Vidmar

Secretary, Office for International Cooperation and Mutual
Legal Assistance, Ministry of Justice

In the past, till February 2014, Acting Director-General at the Directorate for Legislation on the Justice System at the Ministry of Justice

National delegate in the Working Party on the Court of Justice (chair of the meetings during the first Slovenian EU Presidency) and in the Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights and Free Movement of Persons (FREMP) – chair during the last Slovenian EU Presidency. National representative in the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) and the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ)

Responsible for drafting laws (Courts Act, Judicial Service Act, Bar Act, etc.) and member of the negotiation group for the salaries of civil servants





UNITED STATES

Rachel Rossi

Director, Office for Access to Justice, Department of Justice

President Joseph R. Biden and Attorney General B. Merrick Garland announced the appointment of Rachel Rossi as Director of the Office for Access to Justice in May 2022.

Prior to her appointment, Director Rossi served as Deputy Associate Attorney General in the Office of the Associate Attorney General, Vanita Gupta. In that role, she also served as the inaugural Anti-Hate Coordinator for the Justice Department.

Director Rossi began her career as a public defender in Los Angeles for almost a decade. She practiced in the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office, the Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender's Office, and the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California, where she vigorously defended hundreds of low-income clients in state and federal courts.

Director Rossi then served as Counsel to Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Richard J. Durbin (Illinois), where she was the lead staffer on the First Step Act, a major U.S. federal criminal justice reform bill signed into law in 2018 that created comprehensive sentencing and prison reforms. She then transitioned to the role of Counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, working for then Crime Subcommittee Chair Karen Bass (CA-37).

In 2020, Director Rossi was the first former public defender to run for the nonpartisan seat of District Attorney of Los Angeles County, where she was only five points shy of qualifying for the runoff election, receiving almost half a million votes. She then served as the Legal Director for the REFORM Alliance, where she launched the development of a litigation program for direct representation in criminal cases and in civil litigation matters surrounding issues of probation, parole, supervised release, and community supervision.

Director Rossi received her law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law, where she won the International Moot Court Competition, in Grays Inn, London, and served as Student

Articles Editor for the Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Law Journal. She received the Pepperdine University School of Law Larry D. Kimmons Racial and Social Justice Award, was named one of the National Bar Association's Top 40 Under 40 Lawyers, and was recognized as an Influential Capitol Hill Staffer by Lawyers of Color.

Director Rossi grew up in Los Angeles, California. She is the daughter of immigrant parents born in the Dominican Republic and Greece.



Dr Ramin GARAGURBANLI

President, European Commission for the efficiency of justice (CEPEJ), Council of Europe

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Legislation and Comparative Law Institute, Doctor of Law
Institute of State and Law, Russian Academy of Sciences, PhD in Law
International Law faculty, Baku State University
Law faculty, Russian Law Academy, Ministry of Justice

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

International Law Institute and Georgetown University
(judicial and court administration and caseload management,
Washington D.C., USA)
Northwestern University School of Law, Center for International
Human Rights (Judicial independence and human rights
protection by the United States courts, Chicago, Illinois, USA)
Federal Judicial Center (Judicial education as an
essential element of the judicial independence,
Washington DC., USA)
Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division (Role of the DOJ
in the protection of human rights in the United States,
Washington DC., USA)

WORK EXPERIENCE

2008 – 2020 Project Coordinator for the World Bank funded large-scale judicial modernization projects in Azerbaijan

Responsible for the coordination and management of the World Bank funded nation-wide judicial services and smart infrastructure modernization projects in Azerbaijan. Strategic and operational planning in the role as Chief of the Working Group responsible for activities related to the transformation of Azerbaijan judiciary during the implementation of smart electronic E-Court systems (e.g. Case & Document Management Systems, Court Audio & Video Recording, e-Enforcement system) along with the modernization of the underpinning Court buildings and IT infrastructures within the judiciary. Besides that, he participated in international research projects dealing with the evaluation and organisation of judicial systems.

1998 – 2013 Azerbaijan Justice Sector

Worked in various departments of the Ministry of Justice, such as legislation and legal propagation department, department of state registration of legal entities, organizational-analytical department (judicial statistics), general department of organization and supervision (head of reforms division).

In 2013 joined the Azerbaijan judiciary and appointed as a judge (criminal specialization). In 2017 elected as a member of the Board of Association of Judges in Azerbaijan.

From 2011 worked on different positions at the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, and from 2018 is the Head of the "International law" department of the Institute of Law and Human Rights. He delivers the lectures at the Justice Academy and the Judicial-Legal Council (Unit for training of judges and prosecutors).

From 2018 is the deputy Director of Justice Academy.

More than 98 publications in different aspects of international, European and criminal law, including CEPEJ publications (Studies N21 and N22).

2005 – Ongoing Council of Europe/CEPEJ

From 2005 member and national correspondent of the European Commission for the efficiency of justice (CEPEJ), in 2011 member of the Working Group on evaluation of judicial systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL) and in 2014-2018 participated in the peer evaluation trips to Estonia, Switzerland, Slovak Republic, Cyprus and Georgia, as well as presided over the peer evaluation trips to Lithuania and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

In 2014 elected at the plenary meeting as a member of the Bureau, 2016-2018 the Vice-president, and from 2019 is the President of the CEPEJ.



Florian Geyer

Head, Unit for Justice Policy and Rule of Law, Directorate General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission

Florian Geyer, is a lawyer and has been working for the European Commission for more than fourteen years in various Directorates-General (Justice and Consumers, Secretariat-General, Migration and Home Affairs).

Before joining the Commission, he was a Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels and a senior research assistant in public law at the University of Trier, Germany.

He started his career in the Commission as policy officer for issues relating to the protection of fundamental rights at European Union level; subsequently he served for more than seven years as Policy Assistant to the Directors-General for Justice and Consumers, for Migration and Home Affairs and the Deputy Secretary-General of the Commission.

From 1 October 2019 to 30 May 2021, he headed the Unit for Policy Coordination and Interinstitutional Relations in the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

Since 1 June 2021 he is the Head of Unit responsible for justice policy and the rule of law in the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers.

OECD

Elsa Pilichowski

Director, Public Governance Directorate



Ms Pilichowski has more than 20 years' experience dedicated to public governance in OECD and Partner countries. She joined the OECD in 2000, in the Public Governance Directorate where she worked until 2012. She led projects and teams on Agencies, Public Employment and various governance issues. She was instrumental in the design of the first set of indicators on government human resource management and on the production costs of governments, as well as in the implementation of the first Public Governance Review of France. Ms Pilichowski then moved to the Global Relations Secretariat in 2012 as project manager and then Deputy Head of the Eurasia programme (a.i.), where she led a project on Competitiveness in Kazakhstan and supported the Head of Programme in managing staff and ensuring quality control.

Between 2014 and 2020, Ms Pilichowski was Advisor and then Counsellor in the Office of the Secretary-General (OSG), ensuring

the delivery of the Secretary-General's agenda and supporting the Chief and Deputy Chief of Staff in the Strategic and corporate agenda. This support included the organisation of the MCMs and GSGs since 2016; the preparation of the OECD Council and Standing Committees' meetings in coordination with the Council Secretariat, the Annual conversation between the Secretary-General and Heads of Delegations; the preparation of the draft Programme of Work and Budget for SGE, and the reporting on horizontal projects. She provided general support to OSG on OECD's governance and administrative matters. She assumed the responsibility of supporting the Cabinet work on communications, and in this role, she coordinated the Raising the Bar brochure and the Covid-19 Hub on behalf of OSG. Ms Pilichowski was Acting Director of Council and Executive Committee Secretariat since between 1 July 2020 and 30 September 2020.

Prior to joining the OECD, Ms Pilichowski held positions of Research Assistant in the World Bank's East Asia and Pacific Region Vice President's Office (1999-2000) and Consultant at the World Bank Institute (1997-1999).

A Canadian/French national, Ms Pilichowski holds a Master degree in Public Administration from Sciences Po in Paris (1994) and a Master degree in International Economics from Johns Hopkins University in Washington D.C. (1997).

Ms. Pilichowski took up her duties on 1 October 2020.