

CURRICULUM VITAE

Peter Poptchev, Ambassador at large

Education:

English Language Secondary School, Plovdiv, 1958 - 1963

M. Sc. in International Economics, University for National and World Economy, Sofia, 1965 -1970

Ph.D. in Politology, (Doctorate), Sofia University, Sofia, 1987 - 1991.

Short-term international academic courses:

- Diplomatic Academy, Moscow, March 1988
- NATO Defence College, Rome, October 1991
- Swedish Diplomatic Service, Stockholm, February 1994
- Clingendael Institute of International Relations, the Hague, May 2008

Professional experience:

After successful entrance exams, joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Posts abroad:

Bulgarian Embassy, *Lagos*, 1973 - 1976, *Cultural Attaché*

Bulgarian Permanent Mission to the UN, *Geneva*, 1983 -1986, *First Secretary for Disarmament*

Bulgarian Embassy, *Brussels*, 1991 - 1992, *Minister Plenipotentiary, NATO Liaison and Political Affairs*

Bulgarian Embassy, *Dublin*, 1996 - 1999, *Head of Mission*

Bulgarian Permanent Mission to the UN, OSCE and other international organisations, *Vienna*, 2003 – 2006, *Alternate Permanent Representative; Head of Mission from November 2005 to July 2006*

In between postings worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, usually as Head of Division. P.P. participated in over 150 international conferences as a member and head of Bulgarian delegations on issues of UN, EU and NATO.

Currently P.P. holds the position of *Ambassador at large for Energy Security and Climate Change and National Co-ordinator for the EU Nabucco Project, with the Directorate of Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In April 2007 was nominated MFA Correspondent to the EU Network on Energy Security. P.P. has taken part in the negotiations on the South Stream agreement with Russia, and, presently, on the Intergovernmental agreement on Nabucco. He served as the Coordinator of the Sofia Energy Summit "Natural Gas for Europe: security and Partnership", 24-25 April, 2009 and moderated the drafting of the final Declaration of the Summit.*

In the past few years focussed on strategic issues and security studies, European integration, including CFSP/ESDP, transatlantic relations, peace-keeping and crisis management, EU Neighbourhood policy; the European Perspective for the countries of the Western Balkans, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and dual-use technology, the Iranian nuclear programme, issues of the Greater Middle East, international humanitarian law,

counter-terrorism; combating organised crime, drug-trafficking, corruption and trafficking in human beings; political, economic and technological aspects of globalisation, sustainable development and reform of the UN, energy security and climate change, the wider Black Sea and Caspian Sea region.

Served as a "qualified expert of the UN Secretary General" in an international team to elaborate "guidelines and procedures for international investigations of alleged use of WMD" (1989). In 1995 attended the UN 50th Anniversary celebrations in San Francisco as the National Co-ordinator.

Held elected international positions: Chairman of Ad Hoc Committees in the negotiations to ban chemical weapons (1985, 1986); Vice-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Conference to ban land-mines and laser blinding weapons (1994 - 1996); Chairman of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2003), President of the Conference of States Parties to the UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime (2005); Chairman of HONLEA, Europe; Chairman of the Wassenaar Arrangement Outreach Group (2005).

From May to July 2006 served as Chairman of the OSCE Forum for Security co-operation in Vienna. In this capacity represented the Forum at meetings at NATO HQs in Brussels and the UN in New York. In Vienna, P.P. also represented Bulgaria at the OSCE, UN Office on Drugs and Crime; IAEA, UN Office on Outer Space Affairs, UNIDO, UNCITRAL, Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organisation, Wassenaar Arrangement, Nuclear Suppliers Group, Hague Code of Conduct against proliferation of Ballistic Missiles.

Publications and academic activities:

Four books - on Nigerian politics, economy and culture, 200 p.; on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, 115 p. on the Role of weapons of mass destruction in military doctrines, 220 p. published in Sofia in 1978, 1981 and 1991, respectively, and in August 2006 published a book entitled "European Union: contribution to global security and stability" (270 p.). P.P. published also numerous *articles* on international security, foreign affairs, European and Euro-Atlantic integration, some of them written in English and published in international periodicals. In 1993 won a NATO Democratic Institutions Scholarship and produced a *paper* in English, entitled "The role of NATO and the EU in developing Bulgarian-Greek-Turkish regional co-operation: security and economic aspects" (85 p., NATO copyrights). In 1994 developed the first Bulgarian *Liberal Concept* on National Security (published in both Bulgarian and English). P.P. regularly lectures at the Diplomatic Institute and Bulgarian universities.

Languages:

Bulgarian and English: excellent;
French and Russian: good to very good;

Family: Married, with 2 daughters.