

Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee against Torture

Name and first name:

İşcan, Erdoğan Şerif

Date and place of birth:

14 April 1954, Istanbul, Turkey

Working languages:

English (excellent), German (medium), French (modest), Turkish (mother tongue)

Current position / function:

- Retired ambassador, over forty years of career in diplomacy.
- Lecturer at several universities on international organisations, human rights and humanitarian law, migration and refugee issues, countering terrorism while ensuring respect for human rights and the rule of law.
- Contributor to think tanks on the topics mentioned above.

Main professional activities:

- Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the Council of Europe (CoE), Strasbourg (2014-2018).
- Deputy Undersecretary for general political affairs, MFA (2013-2014).
- Director General for multilateral political affairs, MFA (2011-2013).
- Ambassador to South Korea (concurrently accredited to North Korea) (2009-2011).
- Ambassador to Ukraine (2005-2009).
- Director for the Council of Europe and Human Rights, MFA (2001-2005).
- Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Office in Geneva (1999-2001).
- Consul General at London (1996-1999).
- Earlier postings include Bonn, Vienna (CFE negotiations), Frankfurt and Doha.

Educational background:

- Graduated in 1978 from the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, studied political science and international law.

Other main activities in the field of human rights relevant to the mandate of the Committee against Torture:

- Agent of Government before the European Court of Human Rights (2014-2018).
- Chair of the Committee of the Parties to the Istanbul Convention (CoE Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence) (2015-2018).
- Chair of the Group of Rapporteurs on democracy education and culture (GR-C) of the CoE Committee of Ministers (2017-2018).
- Member of the Governing Board of the European Wergeland Centre (EWC), based in Oslo, promoting education for democratic citizenship and human rights (2017-2018).
- Interlocutor to the CPT (European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment) (2014-2018).
- National liaison officer for the CPT (2001-2005).
- National coordinator for execution of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (2001-2005).

List of most recent publications in this field:

- Collected speeches delivered at the UN and the CoE.
- Various reports and written submissions throughout diplomatic service on international law, human rights and humanitarian law, migration and refugee issues as well as counter-terrorism.