

**Konstantine VARDZELASHVILI (Georgia)**

**Date and place of birth:** July 26, 1972, Tbilisi, Georgia

**Working languages:** Georgian (native), English, Russian

**Current position/function:**

Since October 2006 - elected as a Justice and Vice-President of the Constitutional Court of Georgia.

**Main functions:**

As a Chairman of the First Collegium of the Constitutional Court presides over the court hearings;

Supervises research, analysis and strategy development for the reforming of court procedures;

Coordinates international relations and public education activities.

**Main professional activities:**

2009 – appointed as an Ad Hoc Judge to the European Court of Human Rights;

Since 2007 – Substitute Member of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission);

2004-2006 – Deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia.

**Educational background:**

2002 – graduated from Tbilisi Institute of Law, Tbilisi, Georgia (Diploma in Law);

1997-1998 - University of Edinburgh, Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Economic and Social History, Edinburgh, UK. (Ph.D. Research Program);

1995 – graduated from Central European University, History Department, Budapest, Hungary (MA in Modern History);

1994 – graduated from Tbilisi State University, History Department, Tbilisi, Georgia.

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:**

Since 2012 – Professor of Law at Ilia State University (Georgia);

Since 2011 – Lecturer at Ilia State University (Georgia), subjects: Conflicting rights, Constitutional Rights and the Principles of Liberty;

Since 2010 – Head of the Center for Constitutional Studies at Ilia State University (Georgia), supervising researches in constitutional justice, legal reform, society development and democratic transformation;

Since 2010 – Lecturer at the Free University (Georgia), subject: Induction to the Cooperative Constitutionalism, Constitutional Rights and Judicial Review;

Member of the Editorial board of the Constitutional Law review (quarterly law Journal);

2008-2011 – designed and lectured the short-term courses on Constitutional Criminal Procedure, Freedom of Expression and Religion, Property Rights;

2004-2006 – as a Deputy Minister was in charge of drafting of laws: on non-profit organizations; restitution and rehabilitation of victims of the conflict in former South

Ossetia Autonomy; was a member of a group working on the law on repatriation of persons deported in 1940s from territory of Georgian SSR;

2001-2004 – British Council Georgia, Manager of the projects in legal and human rights education, voters education, reform of the criminal procedure and prosecution in Georgia, elaborating and advocating amendments to strengthen defense rights in the criminal process;

2002-2003 – Member of Task Force on Communications and Broadcasting Law, developing strategy and framework legislation for establishment of the Public Service Broadcasting in Georgia;

2000-2002 – Independent Council of Public Oversight, monitoring human rights conditions in penitentiary, drafting recommendations, appeals and requests to the Ministry of Justice of Georgia;

2000-2001 – Member of the Analytical Team, Reform Support Agency (RSA) - MegaProject operated by the Open Society Georgia Foundation in cooperation with Research Triangle Institute (USA) in Support of the Education Reform in Georgia;

2001-Liberty Institute NGO (Georgia), in charge of monitoring and reporting human rights violations, with a special focus on freedom of expression and religion.

**List of most recent publications in the field:**

Co-author and editor of the Property Rights Manual to be published in 2012;

Co-author and editor of the Guide to Constitution, 2012;

Co-author of the Joint Opinion on the Constitutional Law on the Judicial System and Status of Judges of Kazakhstan, adopted by the Venice Commission at its 87th Plenary Session (Venice, 17-18 June 2011);

Co-author of the Opinion on the Draft Constitutional Law on the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Kyrgyzstan, adopted by the Venice Commission at its 87th Plenary Session (Venice, 17-18 June 2011);

Editor for the Georgian edition of the Human Rights in Criminal Proceedings by Stefan Trechsel, first published in 2005 by Oxford University Press Inc., published in 2009;

Member of editorial board, Constitutions of the Foreign States, published in 2006;

Editor of Human Rights: Freedom of Expression Manual, published in 2003.

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