

CV Dr. M. Javad Zarif

Born: January 8, 1960, Iran
Languages: Persian, English
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Status: Senior Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Javad Zarif, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, served as the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations from 5 August 2002 to 6 July 2007. Before that, he was Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs from 1992 to 2002. He is a career diplomat and has served in different senior positions in the Iranian Foreign Ministry and at various international organizations.

In the past two decades, Ambassador Zarif has played an active role in the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. He was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as a member of the Group of Eminent Persons on Dialogue among Civilizations. He has also served as chairman of numerous international conferences including the United Nations Disarmament Commission (2000), Sixth (Legal) Committee of the 47th United Nations General Assembly (1992-93), Political Committee of the 12th Non-Aligned Summit in Durban (1998), and the OIC High-Level Committee on Dialogue among Civilizations. He also served as the President of the Asian African Legal Consultative Committee from 1997 to 1998.

Javad Zarif holds a Ph.D. in International Law and Policy from the Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver. In addition to his diplomatic responsibilities, he has been a Visiting Professor of International Law at University of Tehran, where he has taught human rights, international law and multilateral diplomacy.

Javad Zarif has served on the board of editors of a number of scholarly journals, including the Iranian Journal of International Affairs and Iranian Foreign Policy, and has written extensively on disarmament, human rights, international law, and regional conflicts. His writings include "Tackling the Iran - U.S. Crisis," *Columbia University Journal of International Affairs*, Spring-Summer 2007; "Indispensable Power: Hegemonic Tendencies in a Globalized World," *Harvard International Review*, Winter 2003; "Reflections of Terrorism, Dialogue and Global Ethics," *Seton Hall Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations*, Winter 2002; "Impermissibility of the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons", *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, 1996; "The Principles of International Law: Theoretical and Practical Aspects of their Promotion and Implementation," *International Law as a Language for International Relations*, (The Hague: Kluwer Law International, 1996.); "Islam and Universal Declaration of Human Rights," *Enriching the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, (Geneva: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, 1999).

Education

- 1981 B.A. International Relations, San Francisco State University
- 1982 M.A. International Relations, San Francisco State University
- 1984 M.A. International Relations, Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver
- 1988 Ph.D. International Law and Politics Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver

Major National Responsibilities

- 2007-present Senior Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 2002-2007 Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the United Nations, New York
- 1992-2002 Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs, Tehran
- 1989-1992 Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, New York
- 1988-1989 Advisor to the Foreign Minister, Tehran
- 1985-1988 Advisor, later Counsellor and *Charge d'affaires, a.i.*, Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York
- 1982-1983 Advisor, Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York

Major International Responsibilities

- 2003-2005 Vice-President, United Nations General Assembly
- 2001 Chairman, Asian Preparatory Meeting of the World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance
- 2000-2002 Member, UN Group of Eminent Persons on Dialogue among Civilizations
- 2000 Chairman, United Nations Disarmament Commission
- 2000-2001 Chairman, OIC High-Level Expert Committee on Dialogue among Civilizations
- 1998 Chairman of Political Committee, 12th Non-Aligned Summit, Durban
- 1998 Chairman, High-Level Governmental Expert Committee on Confidence Building

- 1997-2000 Member, Eminent Persons Advisory Group on Reform of Global Governance
- 1997 Spokesman, Chairman of Senior Officials, and Chairman of Political Committee, Eighth Islamic Summit Conference, Tehran
- 1997-1998 President, Asian African Legal Consultative Committee, New Delhi
- 1992-1993 Chairman, Sixth (Legal) Committee of the 47th United Nations General Assembly

Academic Activities

- 1997- Visiting Professor of International Law, University of Tehran.
- 1989- Visiting Professor, College of International Relations, Tehran.
- Topics: Human Rights, International Law, International Organizations, Multilateral Diplomacy

Publications

“Self-Defense in International Law and Policy” (University of Denver, 1988.)

"Anticipatory and Preventive Self-Defense in International Law", *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, Volume I, No.1, 1989.

"Legal Problems of the Arms Embargo against the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina", *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, Volume VII, No.2, 1995.

"Security Considerations in the Middle East, an Iranian Approach", *Arms and Technology Transfers: Security and Economic Considerations Among Importing and Exporting States* (Geneva: UNIDIR, 1995.)

"Political Islam", *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, Volume VII, No. 3, 1995.

"Impermissibility of the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons," *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, Volume VIII, No. 1, 1996.

"Security and Insecurity in the Persian Gulf", *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, Volume VIII, No. 2, 1996.

"The Principles of International Law: Theoretical and Practical Aspects of their Promotion and Implementation", *International Law as a Language for International Relations* (The Hague: Kluwer Law International, 1996.)

"Unilateral US Sanctions Against Iran", *The Journal of Foreign Policy* (Persian), Vol. XI, No. 1, 1997.

"U.S. Unilateral Sanctions Against Iran", *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, Volume IX, No. 1, 1997.

"The Need for Reform in the Organization of the Islamic Conference", *The Journal of Foreign Policy* (Persian), Volume XI, No.3, Fall 1997.

"Continuity and Change in Iran's Post-Election Foreign Policy", *Foreign Policy Forum*, Volumes III and IV, 1998.

“Extra-Territorial Sanctions in International Law”, *Report of the Seminar on the Extra-Territorial Application of National Legislation* (New Delhi: the Secretariat of AALCC, 1998.)

“Islam and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights”, *Enriching the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (Geneva: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, 1999)

“Weapons of Mass Destruction in Iran’s Security Paradigm”, *Iranian Journal of International Affairs*, Volume XI, No. 4, Winter 1999-2000.

“Preface”, *Reimagining the Future: Towards Democratic Governance* (Bundoora, Australia: La Trobe University, 2000)

“Article XI: Hopes and Challenges”, *OPCW Synthesis, Spring 2001*.

Crossing the Divide: Dialogue among Civilizations (South Orange, NJ, USA: Seton Hall University, 2001)

“Preserving the Best of All Civilizations”, *South Letter*, Volumes 3&4, 2001.

“Reflections on Terrorism, Dialogue and Global Ethics”, *Seton Hall Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations*, Winter 2002.

“Missile Proliferation and Missile Defense”, *A Disarmament Agenda for the Twenty-First Century* (New York: United Nations, 2002).

“Indispensable Power: Hegemonic Tendencies in a Globalized World”, *Harvard International Review*, Winter 2003.

“A Neighbor’s Vision of New Iraq”, *New York Times*, May 10, 2003. Reprinted in the *International Herald Tribune* and several newspapers in the Persian Gulf region.

“Iran: US Nuclear Fears are Overblown”, *LA Times*, Nov 5, 2004. Reprinted in several US newspapers.

“A Stronger Prescription for Security: Dialogue”, *Global Agenda* (New York: United Nations Association of USA, 2005).

“We Do Not Have A Nuclear Weapons Program”, *New York Times*, April 6, 2006. Reprinted in the *International Herald Tribune*, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* and several other newspapers worldwide.

“The Case for Iran: Alarmist assessments of Iran’s nuclear program lack a key component: evidence”, *Los Angeles Times*, December 30, 2006.

["United Nations Unfairly Pressuring Iran". CNN.com 20 October 2006](#)

“How Not to Inflammate Iraq”, *New York Times*, February 8, 2007. Reprinted in the *International Herald Tribune*

“Tackling the Iran - U.S. Crisis: the Need for a Paradigm Shift”, Columbia University *Journal of International Affairs*, Spring - Summer 2007.