



Marcia V. J. Kran

Canada's Candidate for the Human Rights Committee



Marcia V. J. Kran is an accomplished Canadian lawyer with extensive experience in international human rights, developed over her distinguished 35-year career. She has a distinctive combination of in-depth knowledge of international human rights law and broad practical experience advising numerous countries on the application of international human rights standards. In positions at the UN, in academia, in civil society and in government, she has demonstrated effective and strategic leadership on human rights.

Ms. Kran has a thorough understanding of and experience with the interplay and linkages between civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development. She is a recognized expert on the gender dimensions of human rights. She has a comprehensive and realistic vision of the critical role UN treaty bodies play in the effective promotion, protection and fulfillment of human rights. Ms. Kran received the Walter S. Tarnopolsky Award for Human Rights, named after the first Chair of the Human Rights Committee, in recognition of her contributions as a Canadian jurist to international human rights.

A P P R O V E N T R A C K R E C O R D

Independent Consultant on International Human Rights
March 2014 – present / Vancouver, Canada

Director, Research and Right to Development Division
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
January 2009 – October 2013 / Geneva, Switzerland

Head of Policy and Programmes and Officer in Charge
UN Development Programme Regional Centre for Asia-Pacific
May 2006 – January 2009 / Bangkok, Thailand

Democratic Governance Team Leader/Manager
UN Development Programme Regional Centre for Europe/CIS
September 2003 – May 2006 / Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Director, Criminal Justice Reform Programme
Open Society Institute
February 2001 – January 2003 / Budapest, Hungary

Project Manager, Technical Cooperation Branch
UN Centre for Human Rights
August 1995 – June 1996 / Geneva, Switzerland

Senior Associate, International Centre for Criminal Law Reform
and Criminal Justice Policy
University of British Columbia Faculty of Law
February 1994 – August 1995 / Vancouver, Canada

Professional Officer, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch
UN Office in Vienna
September 1991 – January 1992, May 1992 – September 1993 / Vienna, Austria

Legal Policy Counsel, Criminal Law Policy Section
Department of Justice (Canada)
December 1989 – Sept. 1991, January – May 1992 / Ottawa, Canada

Research Associate, International Human Rights Programme
University of Toronto Faculty of Law
June 1989 – November 1989 / Toronto, Canada

Crown Prosecutor / Crown Attorney
Department of the Attorney-General (Manitoba, Canada)
September 1981 – August 1987 / Winnipeg, Canada

International lawyer with 35 years
of experience in human rights and
international law

Proven track record working
cooperatively with states on
strengthening human rights
protection

Academic experience as an adjunct
professor of international human
rights law at the University of
British Columbia

Expert on human rights from
the multilateral, national,
academic and NGO perspectives



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