

Curriculum Vitae

János Herman

János Herman was born in 1952 in Budapest, Hungary. He studied in Budapest and Moscow and graduated in 1975 in the Moscow State University for International Relations. The same year he joined the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary.

From 1976 to 1981 he worked as Attaché in the Hungarian Embassy in Lima, Peru, being in charge of Cultural and Press Affairs.

From 1981 to 1985 he was in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, dealing first with Latin American affairs and later as analyst and speechwriter.

From 1985 to 1989 he acted as First Secretary in the Hungarian Embassy in Mexico City.

In 1990 (after the first democratic elections in Hungary) he was appointed Spokesman of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Hungary. He attended several courses on press and public relations affairs organised by Germany and the United States. He stayed in this position until 1994.

From 1992 to 1994 he acted also as Deputy State Secretary in the Foreign Ministry in charge of multilateral affairs. He represented Hungary at numerous multilateral events, in particular those dealing with the Balkans and the conflicts relating to the former Yugoslavia.

At the same time, from 1992 to 1994 János Herman was Spokesman of the Hungarian Government on Foreign Affairs, working for Prime Minister Jozsef Antall.

From 1994 to 1998 he was Ambassador of Hungary in Greece, also accredited to Cyprus.

From 1998 to 2001 János Herman was Permanent State Secretary of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry. He introduced several proposals for changes in the structure and functioning of the Ministry and of the Hungarian diplomatic service.

From 2001 to 2005 he worked as Permanent Representative of Hungary to NATO. From March to July 2005 he was the Dean of the North Atlantic Council.

János Herman joined the European Commission in October 2005 as Principal Adviser for Regional Cooperation. From 2007 he was also Deputy Political Director. He contributed actively to the development of initiatives such as the new Northern Dimension, the Black Sea Synergy, the Arctic Policy and the Eastern Partnership. He represented the European Commission at a large number of high-level meetings and events, many of them relating to Arctic cooperation.

In the spring of 2009 the European Commission decided to nominate János Herman to become the Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in the Kingdom of Norway, also accredited to Iceland.

At later stages of his carrier, János Herman widely published press articles relating to foreign affairs.

Beyond his native Hungarian he speaks English, French, Spanish, and Russian, having good knowledge of German and Greek.

János Herman has been an avid sportsman with some modest (but registered) achievements in athletics and football. He continues to play tennis; he is fond of visiting picture galleries and has travelled widely.

János Herman is married since 1976 with Zsuzsanna Mata Herman. Their daughter (Zita) and son (Akos) are now in their twenties.