**Prof Dr Milan Jazbec, Ambassador As of November 2020**

Prof Dr Milan Jazbec is Slovene diplomat and ambassador, employed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenija (Senior Official for the Adriatic Ionian Initiative), professor of diplomacy, poet and writer. He lives in Ljubljana.

He was the sixth Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to the Republic of North Macedonia (2016-2020) and the fourth Slovene Ambassador to Turkey (2010-2015), being also accredited on a non-residential basis to Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria.

In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs he was Director of the Policy Planning and Research Department (2006–2010), the Department for European countries (2015–2016), the Consular Department (1996), and served as a deputy ambassador in Sweden and also as charge d'affaires (1996–2000; diplomatic cover for Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania). Ambassador Jazbec was also appointed State Secretary for Defence Policy at the Ministry of Defence from December 2000 to November 2004, during the crucial period for the Slovene NATO and the EU membership activities.

Diplomacy is the field he has moved to since the late '80s, when also completing diplomatic school in 1988, while employed in the Federal Secretariat of Foreign Affairs in Belgrade (1987–1991). He was the last Yugoslav Consul in Klagenfurt, Austria (1991) where after the international recognition of Slovenia continued as the first Slovenian Consul (1992–1995).

His professional advancement associated at all times with academic development. After a doctoral degree at the University of Klagenfurt (2000), he was elected Assistant Professor of Diplomacy in 2004, then in 2009 as Associated Professor and in 2015 as a Full Professor of Diplomacy at the University of Ljubljana. Since 2005 he is lecturing diplomacy at the Faculty for Governmental and European Studies at NOVA University, parallel to his diplomatic career. He holds the following courses: Diplomacy, and Diplomatic and Consular Law (MA studies) as well as Diplomacy and Diplomatic Law (PhD level). He lectured i.a. at the University of Columbia in New York and the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. He was visiting professor at Universities of Bilkent, METU and Ankara in Turkey, and at the South East European University in Tetovo and at the International Balkan University in Skopje, both in North Macedonia.

He is the author, coauthor, editor and co-editor of more than sixty books published in fourteen languages ​​(Slovene, English, German, Albanian, Turkish, Russian, Arabic, Macedonian, Montenegro, Roma, Vlach, Serb, Bosnian, and Spanish). One third of them deal with the field of diplomacy, among them The Diplomacies of New Small States: The Case of Slovenia with some comparison from the Baltics (Ashgate, 2001), Diplomacy and Security in the Western Balkans (IFIMES, 2006), Sociology of Diplomacy: Initial Reading (Istanbul, 2014), and Diplomat Martin Krpan (Forma 7, 2017). In additional to this, he is the author of two novels on diplomacy, translated to various languages. He is also the author of more than one hundred thirty articles in the field of diplomacy, security and defense. Among the most discussed topics of particular interest for him are sociology of diplomacy (which is he developing innovatively), post-modern diplomacy, history of Slovene diplomacy as well as diplomacy and literature. This further adds to his broad and multilayered career in diplomacy, business, journalism and politics, as well as a professor, poet and writer.

He is member of the Slovenian Association for International Relations and the Euro Atlantic Council of Slovenia. He has been the editor of the international scientific journal European perspectives since 2009 and since 2017 he is also member of the Slovene PEN. In June 2019 he received The Racin Award of Honour for his achievements in literature and in July 2019 in Sarajevo the Award for the Best Ambassador in South East Europe. He was also decorated in 2005 with the Austrian state award the Great Golden Decoration of Honour with Star for the Merit for the Republic of Austria, received in 1995 the honorary coin of the City Klagenfurt, and in 2013 the Silver Award of the Slovene Armed Forces. Since summer 2020 he is the Vice President of the International Centre for Emotional Intelligence, Ohrid, North Macedonia. During the last decade he is also a Senior Fellow at *Diplo* ([www.diplomacy.edu](http://www.diplomacy.edu)), Geneva. He is among the contributing authors to the Encyclopedia of the Slovene independence, statehood and constitutionality.

Ambassador Milan Jazbec was born and raised in the village of Pohanca that was mentioned for the first time in written record in the year 1246.