

Elisabeth Rehn

Personal

Date of birth: 6 April, 1935 in Helsinki

Education

B.Sc. Economics, Helsinki, 1957.

Titles

Minister 2005, Econ. Dr. h.c 1994, Pol.dr. h.c. 1998.

Languages

Swedish, Finnish, English, German.

Public service

- Member of the Finnish Parliament 1979–1995.
- Member of the European Parliament 1995–1996.
- Minister of Defence 1990–1995.
- Minister of Equality Affairs 1991–1995.
- Presidential candidate 1994, 2000.

International experience

- United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Republic of Croatia, FRY, Bosnia and Herzegovina and FYROM, 27 September 1995–15 January 1998.
- Amicus curiae invited by the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia, case against Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, 1996.
- United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Special Representative of Secretary-General in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 16 January 1998–15 July 1999.
- UNIFEM Independent Expert on the impact of war on women, and co-author of the report Women, War, Peace with H.E. Ms. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, 2001–2002.
- Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, Chair Working Table 1, Democratisation and Human Rights, 2003–2004.
- United Nations Development Programme, Independent Expert Review on the PAPP-Programme in the Occupied Territories, Palestine, 2004.
- Patron of the United World College project in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2005–, and Chair of the Board in Education from Conflict to Internationalism, 2006–.
- Witness for the prosecution, International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia, 2008.
- Co-organizer, Women Leaders' Colloquium, Liberia, 2006–2009.
- Invited to visit Yemen for discussions with the political leadership on women's role in decision making, April 2009.
- Frequent visits to the field and contact with victims of violence.
- Independent Expert for the United Nations and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland on Peace Building, Crisis Management, UNSCR 1325.
- Invited by the United Nations, governments and organizations as lecturer, keynote speaker in Addis Ababa, Mali, Moscow, Jakarta, Aceh, Nairobi, Bujumbura, Seoul, Pretoria.
- Board Member, Trust Fund for Victims, International Criminal Court, 2009 -.
- Chairperson for the Board of Directors at the Trust Fund for Victims, International Criminal Court, 2010 -.
- Member of UNHCHR High Level Panel reporting on sexual violence committed by armed troops in DRC, 2011.

Memberships and NGO positions

- UNICEF, Finnish Committee, member 1982–1994, Chair 1988–1993.
- Finnish Red Cross, Vice-chair 1984–1988.
- WWF Finland, Board of Trustees, Chair 2000–2006.
- UNIFEM Finland, Vice-chair of the Board 2003–2005.
- Member of the Global Leadership Foundation.
- Advisory Board member of the Regional Women's Lobby South Eastern Europe.
- Senior Gender Adviser for West Africa at the Crisis Management Initiative (CMI).
- Member of the Executive Board for the European Leadership Network (ELN).
- Member of the Global Leadership Council of Women International Security (WIS).
- Chair of the Advisory Board of Femmes Africa Solidarité.