

Statement of Qualifications

The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has decided to nominate Prof. Dr. Ekaterina Trendafilova to be elected member of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims of the International Criminal Court. The decision of the Government is justified by the high qualifications of Dr. Trendafilova.

Prof. Dr. Trendafilova has served nine years mandate as a Judge of the International Criminal Court which ended on 10 March 2015. Throughout her term of office she has established a reputation of a highly competent Judge dedicated to the mission of the International Criminal Court. She left a valuable legacy in the practices and jurisprudence of the Court. Prof. Dr. Trendafilova has performed judicial duties at different stages of the proceedings in almost all situations and cases before the Court. She has served as a Judge in the Pre-Trial Division (Presiding Judge of Pre-Trial Chamber II and President of the Pre-Trial Division) and an *ad hoc* Judge sitting on the first final Judgments before the Appeals Chamber as well as on interlocutory appeals. In addition to her judicial responsibilities, Prof. Dr. Trendafilova was a member of the Advisory Committee on Legal Texts and of the Working Group on Lessons Learned.

Before assuming her judicial office with the International Criminal Court, Prof. Dr. Trendafilova performed multiple responsibilities. She is a distinguished professor of International criminal law and Criminal justice. Prof. Dr. Trendafilova has combined her academic career with the practical experience of a Deputy district attorney and a barrister with the Sofia Bar.

She has also been active in the international fora as the representative of Bulgaria in the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as well as an expert of the EU Commission in projects concerning the legal reform in Bulgaria and in the Balkan countries. Prof. Dr. Trendafilova has been a participant in the International Visitor Leadership Program hosted by the US Department of State.

At home, Prof. Dr. Trendafilova is well known for her deep involvement in and contribution to the reform of the criminal justice system and the protection of human rights. She has provided expertise to the Parliament of Bulgaria and to the Ministry of Justice, as well as to the Bulgarian judiciary. Prof. Dr. Trendafilova has actively worked with NGOs on a number of projects concerning the judicial field and human rights standards.

Prof. Dr. Trendafilova is a renowned scholar with publications in Bulgaria and in the USA, France, Italy, Brazil, Germany, Colombia, Croatia, The Netherlands. She has been granted Alexander von Humboldt and Fulbright scholarships. Ekaterina Trendafilova is a prominent member and president of a number of legal associations. Her professional qualifications and valuable contributions have been acknowledged by the awards granted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, the Union of Bulgarian Jurists, the publishing houses of Bulgaria.

Prof. Dr. Ekaterina Trendafilova is a person of highest integrity, expertise, professionalism and commitment to the values and the mission of the International Criminal Court and to the victims of the atrocious crimes under its jurisdiction. Given her rich experience and expertise and hard working habits, Prof. Dr. Trendafilova will be an invaluable asset to the work of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims.
