

MEGLENA KUNEVA

Born in Sofia on 22 June 1957

Academic background

- **August 1999 – March 2000** - Georgetown University, Washington DC, US, Post-graduate Programme in Law School.
- **October 1996** – Environmental Liability, the Hague, the Netherlands.
- **September 1996** – Oxford Center, London, UK, Seminar on International Environmental Law.
- **January – June 1995** - Georgetown University, Washington DC, US, Post-graduate Programme in Foreign School PEW Economic Programme.
- **September 1993** – Institute of Human Rights, Turku, Finland, Seminar of Human Rights.
- **1981 – 1984** – Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Sofia, Bulgaria, Ph.D. – Environmental Law.
- **1975 – 1981** – Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Sofia, Bulgaria, M.A. in Law.

Professional career

- **1990 – 2001** – Senior Legal Advisor, Council of Ministers

Selected Accomplishments: Environment Act; Water Act; Right of Information Act; Restitution of Land Act; Cadastre and Land Consolidation Act; Cooperation Act; Waste Management Act; Protected Areas, Forest and Restitution of Forests Act; Agreement with the Council of Europe for Reconstruction of Polluted Lands.

- **1992 – 1998** – Legal Consultant

Selected Projects: Establishment of a Waste Dept – Cowi Project; Biodiversity Strategy – GEF Programme; PHARE Waste Management Project; Access to Information Programme; Conservation of Protected Areas – GEF Programme

- **1994 – 1995** – Member of Supervisory Board, Privatization Agency;
- **1995** – Member of the Bulgarian Delegation, United Nations – Fourth Session of the Commission for Sustainable Development;
- **1992 – 1994** – Professor, Bourgas Free University
- **1987 – 1989** – Assistant Professor, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”
- **1987 – 1990** – Editor and Radio Anchor, Bulgarian National Radio

Membership in Professional and other Bodies

- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Berlin Conference “A soul for Europe”
- Member of the Atlantic Club
- Member of the Union of Bulgarian Jurists
- Member of the International Council of UN of Environmental Law
- Member of the Access to Information Programme Foundation
- Member of the Advisory Board and Steering Committee of the TIME Eco-projects Foundation

Political career

- **August 2005 - to date** – Minister for European Affairs;
- **June 2005** – Elected Member of Parliament – (40-th National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria);
- **May 2002 – 2005** – Minister for European Affairs and Chief Negotiator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- **2002 – 2003** – Special Representative of the Republic of Bulgaria, Convention on the Future of the European Union;
- **2001 – 2002** – Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chief Negotiator;
- **June 2001** – Elected Member of Parliament - (39-th National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria);
- Founding Member and Member of the Political Council of the National Movement Simeon II;

Publications

- **“Responsibility for environment damages in the process of privatization” – newspaper “Contemporary law” № 4, Sofia 1994**
- **“The environment resources as an object of state property” – newspaper “Contemporary law” № 6, 1996**
- **“Remarks on the Law on preservation of agricultural lands” – newspaper “Property and law”, № 11, 1996**
- **“Environmental legislation and environmental policy” – newspaper “Bulgarian and the European Union”, ed. Center for the Study of democracy, Sofia 1998**
- **“Comments and practice on the law on concessions” (monograph), Ciela, Sofia 2000**
- **“Bulgaria 2007 – the future of Europe is in diversity” – newspaper “The unseen Europe”, Documents from the archive of Jean Monnet, Sofia 2003**
- **Bulgaria and the challenges of the new Constitution of the European Union” – newspaper “Constitution, Foreign policy and European constitutional space”, Friedrich Ebert foundation and the Institute for political and law studies, , Sofia 2004**
- **“Why this anthem” – newspaper “Anthem of the Saints Cyril and Methodius”, New Bulgarian University, Sofia 2005**

- Author of the screenplay for the documentary “Stories of murders”, directed by Igljka Trifonova, Great Award “Golden Rose” at the Bulgarian film festival, Varna 1993

Decorations, Prizes and Distinctions

- **2005 – Gold distinction of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria**
- **2005 – Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity, Italy**
- **2004 – Order of Prince Enrique, Portugal**
- **2003 – Legion d’Honneur, France**
- **2002 – Order of Civil Merit, Kingdom of Spain**