

## **ROBERTO ECHANDI**

*66 Route des Falaises, Neuchâtel, 2000, Switzerland*

### **PERSONAL PROFILE**

Born in San José, Costa Rica, on May 2, 1967

Married, one child.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **WORLD TRADE INSTITUTE (WTI), UNIVERSITY OF BERN**

Bern, Switzerland

Director, Programme on International Investment (September 2010 – present)

Member of Faculty, Master of International Law and Economics (MILE)

#### **GOVERNMENT OF COSTA RICA**

Brussels, Belgium

**Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the European Union** (January 2007 – August 2010)

**Chief Negotiator of Costa Rica for the Association Agreement between the European Union and Central America** (October 2007 – present)

#### **SMALL ECONOMY TRADE & INVESTMENT CENTRE (SETIC), ACADEMIA DE CENTROAMERICA**

San José, Costa Rica

**Founder & Program Director** (February 2005 – December 2006)

SETIC is a program sponsored by the Academia de Centroamérica, a private, non-profit research centre on economics and development studies based in San José, Costa Rica. SETIC is an international program to provide research, training and advisory services in international trade and investment law and policy with a specific focus on the reality of small developing economies. As Founder and Director, main activities have included:

- Concept development, organization and logistical arrangements to develop the Centre;
- Drafting, presentation and execution of research and technical assistance projects in cooperation with international organizations, such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the U.N. Commission for Trade and Investment (UNCTAD); the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Secretariat (APEC) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD);
- General coordination and participation in research, policy advise and training activities related to international trade and investment law and policy in the United States, Latin America, Asia and Europe.

#### **MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE**

San Jose, Costa Rica

**Special Adjunct Ambassador for U.S. Trade Affairs** (October 2002 – January 2005).

Senior negotiator in the negotiations of the U.S.-Central America Free

Trade Agreement (CAFTA). Head of the Costa Rican delegation in the negotiation groups of trade capacity building, services –which covered the general services framework, financial services, telecommunications, temporary entry and e-commerce – and investment.

**Senior Special Advisor** (March 2000 – February 2001).

Senior negotiator in the Canada-Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) negotiations. Head of the Costa Rican delegation in the negotiation groups of government procurement, antidumping and competition policy.

**Director General for International Trade** (June 1998 – January 2000).

Coordinator of Costa Rica's international trade and investment negotiations and treaty implementation, both at the multilateral and bilateral level, with particular emphasis on the World Trade Organization (WTO), Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and Central American integration fora, as well as bilateral negotiations of Free Trade Agreements with the Dominican Republic, Chile and Panama and negotiations with Mexico and Trinidad & Tobago in several trade specific subjects.

**Advisor** (March-October 1993, June 1995 – January 1997).

Advisor to the Department of International Trade Negotiations on issues of international trade policy, in charge of preparing position papers, drafting and negotiating international trade and investment agreements.

Head of the Costa Rican delegation to negotiations of bilateral investment agreements with Argentina, Canada, Chile, Peru, Poland, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela, as well as in the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) working groups of competition policy, subsidies, investment and services.

## **WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)**

### **APPELLATE BODY SECRETARIAT**

Geneva, Switzerland

**Legal Affairs Officer** (1997–1998)

Assistant and advisor on international law and GATT/WTO law to Appellate Body Members.

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

### **WORLD TRADE INSTITUTE (WTI), UNIVERSITY OF BERN**

#### **Master in Law and Economics (MILE)**

Member of Faculty, Course on Investment (2010 – present)

### **UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA**

#### **LL.M. in International Economic Law & Policy (IELPO)**

Member of Faculty, Course on Investment Protection (2008 – present)

**UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA/DIPLOMATIC INSTITUTE, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF COSTA RICA**

**Master's Program on Diplomatic Studies**

Member of Faculty, Courses on International Trade and Investment Law and Policy (1993, 1995-1996, 1999, 2004–2006)

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER**

Adjunct Professor of Law, Visiting Scholar and Fellow of the Institute for International Economic Law (IIEL) (January 2000 – February 2001).

**EDUCATION**

**ST.ANTONY'S COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD**

Oxford, England

**Masters in Philosophy (M.Phil) in Latin American Studies** (emphasis on development studies and political economy of regional economic integration) (1993–1995)

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL**

Ann Arbor, MI, U.S.A.

**Doctoral studies and Masters in Laws (LL.M )** (1991–1993)  
Best international student in international law (1992)

**SCHOOL OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA**

San Jose, Costa Rica

**"Licenciado en Derecho"** (1991)  
Graduation Summa Cum Laude (1991)

**OTHER FORMATION:**

**JFK SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT, HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

Cambridge, MA, U.S.A. (1996)

**Strategic Negotiation Program**

**INTERNATIONAL LAW INSTITUTE, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY,**

Washington, D.C. U.S.A. (1991)

**Introduction to the U.S. Legal System**

**INCAE Central American Institute on Business Administration**

San Jose, Costa Rica (1990)

**Legal Aspects of Trade with the United States**

**OTHER:**

"Mariano Montealegre Bustamante" Excellence Award conferred by the President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica to the best Ambassador of the Administration (2006-2010)

Honorary Member, Costa Rican Exporters Association (2010)

Fellow Academia de Centroamérica (Think tank specialized on development issues)

Member of the Costa Rican Bar Association

Ronaldo Falconer/Oxford Scholar (1993–1995)

Fulbright Scholar (1991–1992)

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Several books, articles and papers on international trade and investment law and policy published by UNCTAD, Oxford University Press, Cameron May, Martinus Nijhoff, Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, Asia-Europe Journal, Journal of International Economic Law, and several Costa Rican publishers.

### **LECTURES AND CONFERENCES**

Key note speaker, panelist and instructor at multiple conferences, seminars and training activities on issues related to international trade and investment law and policy, in Asia, the Americas and Europe.