

Pavol HAMŽÍK

Chairman of SOP
Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak
Republic
for European Integration

Born: August 20th, 1954
Nationality: Slovak
Marital status: married, two daughters

Mr. Hamžík is a graduate of the Faculty of Law, Comenius University in Bratislava.

He passed through all the levels of diplomatic hierarchy in the foreign service of former Czechoslovakia and, later on, of the independent Slovak Republic from the position of ambassadorial secretary to that of ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary.

During the presidency of the former Czechoslovakia in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE, presently OSCE) he chaired the CSCE steering group on war crisis in ex-Yugoslavia.

After 1st January 1993, Mr. Hamžík acted as the head of the governmental delegation and later on as the head of Permanent Mission of Slovak Republic to the CSCE, he led the Slovak governmental delegation during parallel disarmament talks in Vienna and represented the Slovak Republic in the CSCE Troika.

Between May 1994 and August 1996 he held the post of ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany.

On August 27 1996, Mr. Hamžík was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic. He resigned from his office in protest after the failed referendum on Slovakia's membership of NATO and direct presidential election.

He lectures at the Institute of International Relations, Faculty of Law of the Comenius University in Bratislava and holds the position of associate professor at the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica; he has been a member of the Scientific Council of the latter university since 1995.

Mr. Hamžík is a co-founder and from June 1999 chairman of the Party of Civic Understanding (SOP).

In the September 1998 parliamentary election he gained a seat in the National Council of the Slovak Republic.

On 30 October 1998, Mr. Hamžík was appointed Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic for European Integration.

