



**His Excellency Ferit Hoxha,  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative to the  
United Nations**

Mr. Ferit Hoxha was appointed Ambassador to the United Nations on August 5, 2009.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Hoxha served as National Coordinator for the Alliance of Civilizations and National Coordinator for the Barcelona Process–Union for the Mediterranean since 2008. He was appointed his country's Governor to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors in 2007. In 2006 he was Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Hoxha was Personal Representative of the Head of State to the Permanent Council of the International Organization of la Francophonie from 2001 to 2007, during which period he also served as Ambassador to France until 2006, and Ambassador to Portugal, resident in Paris, from 2003 to 2006. He was Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg from 1999 to 2001, and concurrently Head of Albania's Mission to the European Union in Brussels, a position to which he was appointed in 1998.

He was the Director of the Department of Multilateral Cooperation and International Organizations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1996 to 1998. In 1995, he served as Counsellor to the Permanent Mission of Albania to the United Nations in New York. He was Deputy Director for Multilateral Cooperation and International Relations from 1993 to 1995, having joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1991.

Mr. Hoxha was educated at the University of Tirana in Albania, and also attended the Netherlands Institute of International Relations at Clingendael in The Hague and the Center of International and Security Studies in Maryland, United States.

Born on 22 February 1967 in Koplik, Albania, he is married.

Click [here](#) for more information on Ambassador Hoxha's visit to UVU

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Ambassador of Albania to  
the United Nations**

**WHO WE ARE**

The Office of International Affairs & Diplomacy actively supports UVU's global engagement efforts by advancing UVU's presence and prestige in the international community; helping UVU students become globally competent graduates; promoting cultural literacy and diversity both on campus and in the community.

**CONTACT US**

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## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT ALBANIA



### Albanian Flag History:

The red flag with a black two-headed eagle in the center is claimed to be the design of the 15th-century Albanian hero, George Castriota Skanderbeg, who led a successful uprising against the Turks that resulted in short-lived independence for some Albanian regions (1443-1478). The symbol of the double-headed eagle was re-used by Albanian nationalists during the late 19th and early 20th centuries as a symbol of their campaign for their country's independence from the Ottoman Empire. The current version of the Albanian flag was adopted in 1992 and today Albania is called "the land of the eagles."

Information taken from wikipedia.org  
CIA factbook, worldflags101.com; and facts.co.

- Albania became independent in 1912. However, its borders were later redrawn, leaving areas of large Albanian populations in Kosovo and western Macedonia outside its boundaries.
- During the conflict in former Yugoslavia many ethnic Albanians fled to Albania from Kosovo.
- The capital city of Albania, Tirana, has been inhabited since Neolithic times and was developed in the 17th century.



- Forests cover nearly 40 percent of the total land area of Albania.
- The ancient city of Butrint (pictured left) was built sometime between the 8th and 10th century and was a major city in both the Greek and Roman empires. In 1992 the city was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- In Albania, nodding the head means no, and shaking the head means yes.
- The last undeveloped coastal areas in Europe can be found in Albania.
- Albania is one of the only majority Muslim nations in Europe.
- Christianity was introduced first to Albania in the 2nd Century but when Albania became part of the Ottoman Empire in 1468, most Albanians converted to Islam.
- Albanian national healthcare is completely free.
- Ethnic Albanians comprise 96 percent of the population, making it one of the most ethnically homogeneous countries in the world.
- Albania, with a total land area of 28,500 square kilometers, is approximately the size of the state of Massachusetts.
- The average annual salary in Albania is less than \$100 per month making it one of the poorest and least developed countries in Europe.



Information gathered from wanttoknowit.com, Wikipedia.org, facts.co, lifestyle.iloveindia.com.