



IVONNE A-BAKI

FORMER AMBASSADOR OF ECUADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE & QATAR.

Diplomat & Peace Negotiator ▪ Global Bridge-BUILDER ▪ Advocate for Biodiversity and Indigenous Leadership ▪ Fluent in English, Arabic, Spanish, French, German

Ivonne A-Baki uniquely unites peace negotiation, biodiversity leadership, Indigenous partnership, cross-regional diplomacy, and multilingual cultural fluency. She is the only candidate with a proven track record in brokering peace (Ecuador–Peru), safeguarding the Amazon and Galápagos, negotiating multinational ocean protection, and building bridges between Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and the United States with the capabilities to better unite the global north and global south.

She is a seasoned diplomat and peace negotiator with more than 40 years of expertise including conflict resolution, biodiversity and ocean protection, Indigenous partnership, intercultural dialogue, and global economic policy. She has demonstrated the ability to secure multinational agreements, build cross-regional coalitions, modernize institutions, and advance innovative global initiatives. She embodies the qualities required for the new Secretary-General of the United Nations in the climate and AI era: diplomacy, environmental vision, cultural empathy, institutional reform, public/private sector experience, and the trust of leaders around the world.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & LEADERSHIP ROLES

DIPLOMACY

- Advisor to the President of Ecuador during negotiations that led to the 1998 Ecuador–Peru Peace Agreement
- Ambassador of Ecuador to France and Monaco (2024-2025)
- Ambassador of Ecuador to the United States two times (1998–2002; 2020–2024)
- Ambassador of Ecuador to Qatar, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Kuwait, Oman, Syria (2017–2020)
- Honorary Consul in Lebanon (1981) and Boston (1992–1998)
- Member, Harvard Conflict Management Group, working on negotiations worldwide
- Board Member of the International Peace Institute (Present)

PEACE BUILDING

- Chief Negotiator, Yasuní-ITT Initiative, protecting the world's most biodiverse rainforest.
- Negotiated & Executed the largest debt swap financing blue bonds for \$1.6B for the Galapagos
- Founder & President, Galápagos Conservancy Foundation
- Successfully negotiated a four-nation (Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Cost Rica) ocean protection agreement safeguarding the Galápagos Marine Corridor
- Advocate for Indigenous environmental leadership and circular economy models

ARTS, CULTURE & PUBLIC HEALTH

- Founder, Harvard Arts for Peace, promoting cultural diplomacy
- Founder, Beyond Boundaries Foundation, which eradicated river blindness in Ecuador and now expands public health education
- Professional artist and lifelong promoter of art as a tool for peace

UN & MULTILATERAL ENGAGEMENT

- UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for the Dialogue of Civilizations (2010–present)
- Leader in intercultural and interfaith diplomacy
- Advocate for Indigenous rights and global biodiversity governance

GOVERNMENT & REGIONAL LEADERSHIP (PUBLIC & PRIVATE SECTOR EXPERIENCE)

- Minister of Foreign Trade, Industry, Regional Integration, Fisheries, and Competitiveness (2003–2005)
- President, Andean Parliament (Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Chile) (2007–2009)
- President, Economic Affairs Committee, EUROLAT (2007–2009)
- Co-chair of European Parliament and Andean Parliament (2007–2009)
- Member of Boards: Andean Development Corporation (CAF), COMEXI, Petroecuador

EDUCATION

- Master's Degrees in Public Administration and Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School, 1993
- Arts studies at the Sorbonne University, Paris

TRANSFORM THE UNITED NATIONS

VISION STATEMENT

A United Nations that delivers peace with dignity, protects the planet through Indigenous partnership, modernizes through responsible AI, and ensures every person (especially the youth) has the opportunity to thrive in a rapidly changing world. A UN that looks beyond blue to work faster, smarter, more inclusively, and with deeper humanity.

MISSION STATEMENT

To restore global trust in the United Nations by strengthening peace, accelerating climate and biodiversity action, expanding opportunity through AI and future-skills education, empowering Indigenous and vulnerable communities, and ensuring every UN dollar delivers measurable impact for people and planet.