

Dritan Tola

Ambassador of Albania to France
Representative of Albania to the International Organization of
La Francophonie (OIF)



Born in Tirana (Albania) in 1970, Ambassador Dritan Tola studied literature and law and followed various postgraduate studies in Europe.

Auditor at the 69th National Session of the French *Institut des Hautes Etudes de Défense Nationale* in Paris (IHEDN).

He began his professional career in 1992 and has since worked for the European Union (*European Commission and European External Action Service of the EU*), where he held different functions as Political Adviser and was in charge of political, European integration and other European and regional developments issues. He was also responsible for European programs in the fields of development, democratisation, human rights and civil society, media and culture, public administration, environment, etc.

In 2013, he took up his duties as Ambassador of the Republic of Albania to France (resident) and to Monaco (non-resident), as well as Representative of Albania to the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF). Since 2015, he is also Ambassador of Albania (non-resident) to Portugal.

He chaired the *ad hoc* Committee on Accession and on Changes to the Statute of the OIF, as well as the Working and Group on the Institutional Reform and Functioning of La Francophonie. Founding member of the the *Groupe des Ambassadeurs Francophones de France* (G.A.F.F.) and elected three times as G.A.F.F.'s Vice-President.

Ambassador Tola has been chairman and/or member of steering committees of various international organs and programs in the fields of development and of democratisation, such as the development programs of the UNDP (UN) and the World Bank, of the Open Society Foundation, the Albanian Academy of Political Studies, the European Regional Environment Centre, etc. He is a founding member of "Lions Club Albania" and "Retromobile Club Albania". He is also a member of the *Cercle de l'Union Interalliée* in Paris, and, since 2016, member of the Board of Directors of Schiller International University/Paris Campus.