

AVNI SPAHIU 1956



CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL DATA

Name: Avni Spahiu
Date of Birth: March 12, 1956
Place of Birth: Mitrovica, Kosova
Marital status: Married to Sebahate Spahiu with three children
E-mail : avni.spahiu@ks-gov.net
avni_spahiu@hotmail.com

EDUCATION:

University of Prishtina – M.A. in Literature (2004)
Post-Graduate Studies on Literature at the Faculty of Philology of Prishtina University completed in 1988.
Faculty of Philology – English Department, Prishtina – graduated in 1978.
High School in Elk Rapids – Michigan, USA- graduated in 1974.
Gymnasium in Mitrovica, 1970-72.
Elementary school in Mitrovica – Kosova, 1970.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS HIGHLIGHTS

2012-2019: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kosovo to the Republic of Turkey (Non-resident Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan).
2008-2012: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Kosovo in USA.
2002-2008: Director of Radio Television of Kosova (public broadcaster) – television and later radio.
1999-2002: Editor in Chief of RTK

1994-1998: Editor in Chief of “Rilindja”

1990-95 – Political adviser to former President Rugova

1990: Co-founder of the first free news agency in Kosova, Kosova Information Center.

1982- 1986: Permanent correspondent to UN/USA in New York for “Rilindja”.

1978: Journalist and reporter for “Rilindja” daily newspaper

AREAS OF INTEREST

Human Rights: During early 90s, with leading intellectuals of Kosova, in the wave of the democratic movement, he was part of the first Human Rights Council. In that capacity he attended UN Sessions on Human Rights in Geneva, speaking on its behalf before the UN Human Rights Commission, round table discussions in various capitals on political issues and human rights, such as OSCE Human Dimension Conference at Copenhagen, in Norway, Sweden, Germany, Austria, etc.

Translation: In the meantime he was dedicated to translation from Albanian to English and vice versa. So far he has translated over 20 published books of literature and Western thought. He also translated poetry written by famous British and American poets. He was cofounder and Vice-President of PEN Center of Kosova.

Authorial works: He is author of several books one of which is a collection of features from the USA written during his work as a correspondent and reporter from the USA, one on the Albanian Diaspora in America, on the famous Albanian-American, Mnsgr. Fan Stilian Noli, and one on the Nobel literature winners.

Publications:

“Pages of Friendship – English-American authors on Albanians”, “Skica amerikane” (American Sketches), “Fan Noli – jeta ne Amerike” (also in English ‘Noli’s American Years – Notes on a Great Albanian-American’), “Nobelistet e letersise” (work on Nobel literature laureates), “Teach me to love” (Mother Teresa’s poetry – translation), “Do you Come from Chameria” (poetry anthology – translation), “A Split Stone” (an anthology of Albanian poetry), etc.