



## **TOMAS HEIDAR**

Candidate of the Nordic countries  
Iceland, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden  
for election in 2014 to the  
International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

Date and place of birth: 10 August 1962 in Reykjavik, Iceland  
Nationality: Icelandic

### **CURRENT POSITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Legal Adviser, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, 1996 – present  
Chairman of the National Commission on Continental Shelf Limits, 2000 – present  
Director of the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, 2002 – present  
Co-Director and Lecturer of the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, 2003 – present  
Lecturer, University of Iceland, Faculty of Law, 1998 – present  
Guest Lecturer at several universities  
Conciliator and Arbitrator under Annexes V and VII to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

For two decades, Tomas Heidar has been the leading Governmental expert on oceans and the law of the sea, an issue of vital economic interest for Iceland and a priority in its foreign policy. He has headed Iceland's negotiations with neighbouring countries on fisheries and maritime delimitation and lead the preparations for Iceland's submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. A skilled drafter and mediator, he has been the main expert and negotiator representing Iceland in international meetings on ocean affairs and the law of the sea, in particular at the United Nations and FAO.

### **CURRENT ACTIVITIES:**

Head of Delegation at meetings of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and the Subcommission for Iceland, 2013-2014  
Head of Delegation at a meeting of the Working Group on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity beyond Areas of National Jurisdiction, April 2014  
Head of Delegation at the Informal Consultations of States Parties to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement, April 2014

Head of Delegation at a meeting of the Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, May 2014

Head of Delegation at the Twenty-fourth Meeting of States Parties to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, June 2014

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

Tomas Heidar has long been engaged in capacity-building through the dissemination of knowledge of the law of the sea, including at the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy and the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland. He has organized a number of national and international conferences on the law of the sea, including the 2003 Reykjavik Conference on Legal and Scientific Aspects of Continental Shelf Limits. He is also a frequent speaker at international conferences and seminars on law of the sea issues and has published numerous books and articles on the topic.

## **CURRENT ACTIVITIES:**

Lecturer at a Fisheries Seminar – The Law of the Sea Convention and other Instruments and Initiatives, Brasilia, March 2014

Lecturer at the University of Virginia School of Law, April 2014

Presentation at the Fourth International Symposium on Scientific and Legal Aspects of the Regimes of the Continental Shelf and the Area, Xiamen, April 2014

Lecturer on the law of the sea at the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa, Addis Ababa, April-May 2014

Article, 'Delimitation of the Continental Shelf and Determination of the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf beyond 200 Nautical Miles in Areas of Overlapping Claims: The Nordic Model', to be published in *Liber Amicorum Satya N. Nandan* in June 2014.

Lecturer at the Summer Academy on the Continental Shelf, Faroe Islands, June 2014

Organization of an international conference, Challenges of the Changing Arctic: Continental Shelf, Navigation and Fisheries, hosted by the University of Virginia Center for Oceans Law and Policy, the University of Bergen and the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, Bergen, June 2014

Lecturer, examiner and supervisor at the 19<sup>th</sup> Summer Course of the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, July 2014

## **EDUCATION**

Europe Institute, University of Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany: Certificate in European Studies (European Community law, public international law), 1993-1994

Academy of European Law, European University Institute, Fiesole, Italy: Summer course in European Community law, the law of human rights in Europe, and law and society, 1993

University of Copenhagen, Denmark: Courses in public international law, European Community law, competition law and intellectual property law, 1992-1993

Hague Academy of International Law, the Netherlands: Summer course in public international law, 1988

University of Iceland, Faculty of Law: Cand. Jur. (BA + LL.M.), 1982-1988