**[](http://sda.gov.ge/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/234.jpg)**

**Bio**

In august, 2019 Zurab Sanikidze was appointed as the Chairman of the Public Service Development Agency operating under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. Having been educated as a lawyer (International Law) he graduated from Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Law faculty. He has two master degrees, namely LL.M. in Public International Law and Human Rights at the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs and LL.M. in International Crime and Justice at the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). He successfully completed the Senior Executive Education Program at Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government.

In addition, he accomplished advanced specialization courses in International law and Human Rights at the International Institute of Human Rights (René Cassin Institute), the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (GIIDS) and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC). He also successfully completed various study courses and programs in Public Policy and Management such as John Smith Trust Fellowship Program in UK, Leadership Award in International Relations in Switzerland, International Visitor Leadership Program in USA etc.

From January 2015 till August 12, 2019 he was a Director of Analytical Department of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia;

In 2010-2014 he worked as Legal Advisor and then as Deputy Director of the Analytical Department of the Ministry of Justice;

In 2012 Zurab Sanikidze worked at the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Court in The Hague (ICC);

In 2008-2010 he worked on different positions at the Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman’s Office) of Georgia at the Department of Justice and at the Division of Freedom and Equality of the Department of Investigation and Monitoring;

In 2007 he worked as an legal intern at the Tbilisi Appeal Court of Georgia.

During his work at the Ministry of Justice, Zurab Sanikidze, *ex-officio*, was the Secretary of Criminal Justice Reform Council of Georgia; Secretary of theAnti-Corruption Interagency Coordination Council of Georgia; Chairman of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Forum; Representative / Coordinator of Georgia at the First Platform of the Eastern Partnership; Representative / Expert of Georgia at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in the framework of the evaluation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC); Together with the Minister of Justice, the representative of Georgia to the OGP committees, etc.

Until the present day he is the Head of the Delegation of Georgia to International Organizations (GRECO, OECD / ACN).

Zurab Sanikidze is a guest lecturer at Caucasus University (subject - International Criminal Law), Institute of Public Affairs (subject - International Humanitarian Law) and Ilia State University (subject - Principles of Individual Responsibility in International Criminal Law).

He has published different scientific publications in national as well as international law journals. He participated in various international and national conferences, seminars, trainings, moot courts, etc.

Zurab Sanikidze is a member of the International Association of Penal Law.

He speaks several foreign languages: English, Russian and French.