

## PERSONAL HISTORY

Last name : **CONTINI**  
First name : **BARBARA DEBRA**  
Place date of birth : Milan 22 Sept. 1961  
Nationality : Italian  
Permanent Address : via Ludovisi 35 – 00187 Rome , Italy  
  
Mobile : +39 3286065275  
E-mail : [sen.barbaracontini@gmail.com](mailto:sen.barbaracontini@gmail.com)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Strong leadership abilities and work experience most suited to lead international critical and emergency war and security situations. Proven track record in development policy, international negotiation and humanitarian assistance; more than twenty eight years of successful management experience in government reconstruction, int. foundations, international organizations, n.g.o.'s and private sector, war negotiations, industrial reconstructions, governance, capacity building, human rights, EU rules, security, intelligence analysis, gender issues, int. development in developing and transition countries.

## KNOWLEDGE OF LANGUAGES

Mother tongue : Italian  
Excellence : French, English  
Good : Spanish, Japanese  
Working out : Serbo-Croat, Arabic

## EDUCATION

Degree : Political Science and Japanese – score 110/110 *magna cum laude*  
Specialization : International Relations, Negotiations and Asian Studies  
Dissertation : Japanese military politics from 1945 to Nakasone and the nuclear option

#### POST ACADEMIC STUDIES, MASTER AND GRANTS

- 1985 – 1986 : diplomatic career preparation course by Society For International Organizations, Italian Diplomatic Institute And Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Naples, Italy
- 1987 : Grant Holder, Japanese Universities by the Italian National Research Council (CNR) in Japanese Regions – Tokyo, Japan.
- 1988 : Advanced Course by the United Nations (SIOI) Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Rome, Italy
- 1988 : Master in Business Management & Administration by SO.GE.A. Business Management School - Genova, Italy
- 1989 : Programme Policy and Operations Management Course by U.N.D.P. United Nations Headquarters - New York, U.S.A
- 1992 : Advanced Course on Negotiating Worldwide Aerospace Contracts by EURESAS European Aeronautics School Aerospatiale, British Aerospace, Airbus Industrie, Alenia D.A.S.A. – Toulouse, France
- 1997 : Human Rights Course for Emergency & Crisis situations of Intern. Personnel by N.G.O. Movimondo, Amnesty International & Pearson Peacekeeping Center, Canadian Institute for Strategic Studies, European Union - Rome, Italy
- 1997 : Peacekeeping & Humanitarian Operations, Election Monitoring Missions Training Course for Civilian Personnel, Officers, International Observers by S. Anna Post Graduate School, Pisa University - Pisa, Italy.

#### COUNTRIES OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 1984-1989 : Japan (resident), Singapore, Hong Kong, Nepal, Thailand, India;
- 1989-1991 : Bangladesh (resident), Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong;
- 1992-1999 : Europe (everywhere and frequently); United States, Canada, Cuba, Chile, Peru, Argentina, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Dubai, E.A.U., Turkey, Pakistan, India, Marocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Mauritania, Senegal, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Turkey;
- 1999 – 2002 : Bosnia Herzegovina (resident), Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia
- 2003 – 2004 : Iraq (resident) and Kuwait
- 2004 – 2006 : Sudan, Darfur (resident) , Nigeria, Ciad, Kenya
- 2006 - 2009 : Australia, Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, Brasil, USA, Sweden, Ethiopia,

2009 – 2013 : Lebanon, FRY, Albania, Gulf States, Jordan, India, Egypt, Tanzania, Israel.  
Libia, Barhain, Afghanistan, Yemen, North Corea, China, Uganda, Panama,  
Canada

2009 – 2013: SENATOR OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

- Member of Senate Defense Commission
- Member of European Union Commission
- Member of Human Rights Commission
- Member of Foreign Affairs Commission
- Vice President 2nd commission on: Sustainable Development, Commerce and Industry of Inter Parliamentary Union
- President Bilateral Parliamentary Association of Italy Iraq
- President of Italian Hospitals in the World Association

2007 – 2008: POLITICAL DIRECTOR

- Responsible of Italians Party Department and responsible for Elections for the Italians abroad.

2004 – 2006: SPECIAL ENVOY

Type of business : Diplomatic Mission in Sudan  
Title of post : Prime Minister Special Representative for Darfur – Sudan  
Employer : Prime Minister Office & Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Description of duties : Italian Government Representative in Darfur, Nyala, Sudan.  
Create, manage and coordinate the Italian Cooperation to Development funds for humanitarian emergency projects, in coordination with Italian presence in the region. Representative of Italian Government face the U.N. and all the international actors working for the Darfur crisis. To inform Rome and Khartoum about possible diplomatic mediation, including Abuja for peace-agreements.  
Meet and dialogue with all political and religious leaders present in the Region, governmental and non; set up of diplomatic and political dialogue necessary for peace agreements and solution, requested by the Italian Parliament. Approve, monitor and follow up of all projects funded in Sudan by the Italian Government in areas where UN was not present

#### 2003 – 2004 GOVERNOR COORDINATOR

Type of business : Diplomatic Mission in Iraq

Title of post : Governorate Coordinator of Dhi Qar Province, Nasiryah

Employer : C.P.A. – Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq

Description of duties : Principal Representative of the Dhi Qar Province in Iraq.

Leads the Governorate Team, comprised of the CPA staff element, a military Governorate support team, a contracted local Governance Team, and Iraqi advisors.

The GT supervision consists of providing local governance, identify train and mentor local Iraqi leaders for roles within future Iraqi government;

Leads the monitoring the local contracts and provide programme management;

Coordinate with coalition military forces present in theatre;

Coordinate with non-governmental organizations and all other organizations present;

Advise local government ministry officials in the Province.

The Governorate Coordinator supported the CPA activities, goals and vision as the first steps towards a truly self-governing and independent nation.

#### 2003 – 2004: PROJECTS MANAGER AND PROJECTS COORDINATOR

Type of business : Diplomatic Mission in Iraq

Title of post : Utilities Projects Manager

Employer : C.P.A. - Coalition of Provisional Authority in Iraq

Description of duties : Projects Manager and Projects coordinator of Utilities Department in CPA South, Basrah which includes: Oil, Energy, Telecommunications, Solid Waste, Water and Sewerage.

Project preparation and coordination for the Utilities Department;

Financial management and follow up of all projects; Coordination with Local Authorities and in particular with Ministry of Oil, Public Works, Electricity, Communications; Regional coordination with four provinces in southern Iraq (Mysan, Muthanna, Basrah, Dhi Qar); Liaison with other International Organisations present in Country such as: N.G.O.'s, Unicef, I.O.M., U.N.H.C.R., W.F.P. U.N.D.P.; Weekly reporting, coordination of regular team meetings with other agencies U.S.A. and U.K. (USAID and DFID) and

international contractors present in the Country such as Mott Mc Donald, Bechtel, Halliburton, KBR, CRG, Triple Canopy; Under the direction of the Deputy Regional Coordinator of C.P.A., advises, supports and liaises with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Italian delegation in Baghdad and the Italian Embassy in Kuwait;

#### 2003: COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Type of business : International cooperation to development

Title of post : Country Representative in Iraq

Employer : World Aid from Italy

Description of duties : Under the overall direction of the European Head office, the Country representative and Project Coordinator manages and coordinate the Iraqi office based in Basrah with national and international staff; Prepares, supervises and coordinates all the ongoing projects in the Country, in particular those in the sectors of water and sanitation, education, emergency, rehabilitation and health; Follows the projects in the southern governorates and supervise the contractors; maintains relations with the local authorities and with the Min. of Education, Health and Water Resources; Prepares weekly reports and monthly reports for head office; Maintains relations and coordinates with all other actors in Iraq in particular with British Forces, C.P.A. Coalition Provisional Authority, United Nations, other specialized agencies and the N.G.O.'s. Human & Financial resources responsible for the national and international staff in the Country; prepares and presents projects proposals for new projects financed by U.N. and E.C.H.O.

#### 1999 – 2002: REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Type of business : Diplomatic Mission in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Title of post : Regional Director

Employer : Organisation for the Security & Cooperation in Europe (O.S.C.E.)

Description of duties : Under the overall direction of the Head of Mission in BiH, the Regional Centre Director Manages and coordinates the work of Elections, Implementation Compliance, Regional Stabilization, Human Rights, Democratization, Press & Media Development, Political Affairs,

Administration & Operations in the Tuzla and Mostar Regional Centers with 1.078 staff. (North & South of BiH and BRCKO District).

Coordinates the gathering of information and the submission of a weekly report to include political analysis section, with particular emphasis to the mediation and results achieved.

Maintains high level political contacts and relevant correspondence with the main political party leaders and the local authorities, both at the municipal and at the cantonal level.

Coordinates actions and decisions with the other international organisations present in the Area of Responsibility, such as UNMIBH, OHR, IPTF, EU, UNHCR, SFOR, EUMM, in order to promote the civilian implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace.

Informs Head Office about all main political developments and security issues happening in the Area of Responsibility, and participate to the necessary negotiations to ensure the above.

Coordinates the work of the 7 Field Offices in 6 different towns, by holding regular meetings with Field Office staff and visits regularly the municipal and cantonal local authorities.

Manages the human and material resources (more than 300 staff members) provided to the Regional Centers in the areas of elections, implementation, regional stabilization, human rights, democratization, press & media development, political affairs, administration & operations, in coordination with the respective Heads of Department.

Representative of the Head of Mission, to project the image of OSCE to the media and the public as a leading diplomatic mission contributing significantly to the civilian implementation of the GFAP. Keeps regular press conferences and gives press statements and ad hoc interviews on radio's and TVs stations. Maintains close contact with Multinational military SFOR units in order to coordinate Civil and Military aspects of implementation of the GFAP related to the security situation and in close liaison with the Swiss Support Unit.

1997 – 1998: INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER

Employer : O.S.C.E.

Duty Station : Sarajevo  
Title of Post : International Election and Registration Team Leader & Supervisor  
Type of duty : - Supervision of Absentees Polling Stations of 157 Municipalities  
- Team Leader and Supervisor during the elections registration.

1996 – 1999: SPECIAL ADVISOR

Type of business : International Cooperation to Development in Dev. Countries  
Title of post : Special Advisor to the President & Director of Programs  
Employer : Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Description of duties : Responsible for maintenance of relationships with national and international diplomats Italian highest governmental authorities for the N.G.O. image and all projects activities;  
Directly involved for international projects raising funds with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union directorate, Embassies, U.N. Agencies, at the highest level;  
Supervision, management, planning & control of all Institute's policy activities and for the re-settlement of the political management's Institute organization;  
Human resources responsible, selection of projects international experts and responsible for training of personnel, evaluation, control of personnel management activities, in and abroad;  
preparation, evaluation, feasibility studies, technical reports and assessments, mid term and final reports, operating plans, operative and monitoring plans;  
Responsible for all on-going projects in Africa, Latin America (Ethiopia, Mozambique, South Africa, Peru, Chile, Brazil) and for evaluation and preparation of new projects proposals;  
External relations activities, maintenance of relationships with N.G.O.'s for up coming events;  
European projects responsible: implementation, follow-up, budget funds monitoring;

Development of humanitarian-aid and emergency projects such as E.C.H.O., PHARE, TACIS, MEDA, fund raising and evaluations, feasibility studies, follow-up.

1995 – 1996 MARKETING AND SALES MANAGER

Type of business : Industry - Engineering & Energy Sector

Title of post : Project Manager - International Consultant

Employer : Engineering Companies

Description of duties : Responsible for international contacts with local agents in developing countries for preparation of business activities, promotion of companies procurements and logistic activities;

Evaluation of international contracts, in accordance with international standards, following the guidelines of the W.B., I.M.F., U.N. system and the Industrial Companies rules;

Follow-up of international tenders with main international donors, local governmental bodies, and regular preparation of status reports of projects offers, program management activities;

Development, implementation of programs strategies with the Chambers of Commerce, Institutes, for International Cooperation, promotional agencies, autonomous boards.

1992 – 1995: MARKETING DIRECTOR

Type of business : Industry - Aeronautics, Engineering & Systems

Title of post : Marketing-Communication & Commercial Director

Employer : Aeronautics Manufacturer Company

Description of duties : Progressive responsibility in the strategic policies of the Group (Board of Directors) for Marketing External Relations and Communication. Special advisor to the President for the company policy;



Responsible for institutional and industrial relations at national and international highest level, official representative of the Group Holding with governmental authorities;

Presentation and definition of international contracts with local and foreign government authorities, in particular with Ministries of: Defense, Interiors, R.& D., Cooperation;

Responsible for the marketing and commercial activity, promoting the production of the companies and follow-up of those with marketing strategies and related business plans;

Monitoring, control and supervision of the manufacturing company, including the overall responsibility of the fields management offices in Italy and abroad;

Human resources responsible, in particular for the selection of personnel and current daily personnel management activities of the aeronautic manufacturing company.

Responsible for the organization of the following international events:

Sevilla World EXPO '92 Spain, A.I.A.A. Washington USA'92, NBAA New Orleans '94, Farnborough U.K.'92/'94, Le Bourget Paris '93-'95, Aerial Rally Toulouse- S.Louis du Senegal '93, Santiago of Chile FIDAE' 94, Thai Airshow Bangkok '93, Klagenfurt '93, Asian Aerospace Singapore '94, Indian Airshow of Bangalore '93, Dubai Exhibitions '93-'95.

Responsible for maintenance of contacts with all related authorities of the exhibitions for organizing, preparing the international events, responsible for press-releases, conferences and public relations responsible with media specialized in the aeronautical sector;

Responsible for the creation of the worldwide distribution network of agents and distributors, including maintenance of relationships with the new worldwide dealers;

Responsible for the creation of the Customer Satisfaction management of the company and related follow-up of the production industry, including improvements to corporate planning;

Responsible and representative for E.U. projects related to industry & research such as: Comett, Force, Eurotecnat, Euroform, Brite-Euram, in

cooperation with international consultant, European and American industries and with main European Universities.

1989 – 1991: INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME OFFICER

Type of business : United Nations

Title of post : International Programme Officer

Employer : United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Description of duties : The “portfolio’s” was related to the Infrastructure Section Bureau of U.N.D.P. Dhaka, Bangladesh for all projects related to: Energy, Aviation, Shipping.

In charged of special assignments by U.N.D.P. Resident Representative, for the organization

Maintenance of relationships with local governmental bodies and main international donors and Executing Agencies: W.B., A.D.B., I.M.F.,DTCD, U.N.V., I.C.A.O., I.M.O., I.A.E.A.

Up-dating of information on bilateral and international programs executed within the V° Country Program, jointly with: U.N.C.H.R., UNIDO, UNICEF; W.F.P., I.L.O.

Preparation of work plans, projects descriptions, budgets, monthly up-dating for report to Headquarters and assistance to the U.N. Regional Programs, follow up of in-coming missions.

Preparation of project documents for the implementation of activities and negotiations with local governmental authorities for periodic revisions of all U.N. on-going projects;

The main projects related to the given portfolio’s were focused on: Energy - Coordination and monitoring supervision in connection with the World Bank for the on-going gas projects: drilling and pipelines, appraisal and production for gas wells; assistance and follow-up of Bangladesh Electrical System Supply for the "sustained power system loss reduction program", in connection with I.A.E.A; renewable energy projects and fellowships training programs held in Wien, with the "Atomic Energy Center of Dhaka for renewable and solar energy projects".

Aviation - Assist and monitor the 8 on-going Biman Airlines projects in cooperation with I.C.A.O., for the overall supervision of the security of the Airport and the national airline fleet. Supervision and control of the hangar construction (John Holland & Ranboll & Hanneman). Follow-up of flight safety & operations projects, ground support, technical store management, route & fleet planning, traffic control projects, transfer of know-how airworthiness and inspections, airport security and control. Training of airline downtown Staff and of the Dhaka Airport, in London and Singapore.

Shipping - Assistance to the Chittagong Marine Academy: rehabilitation programs, training for nautical, technical engineers and instructors. Responsible for the procurement of the Marine Academy. Fellowships training programs for 4 women cadets & technicians to be held in Singapore and London, supervision, control and follow-up of the innovative training program.

#### 1987 – 1989: MANAGING DIRECTOR

Type of business : International Trading  
Title of post : Managing Director  
Employer : W.A.I.P.O. Company. - Tokyo, Japan

Description of duties : Shareholder of Import - Export Company operating in the sector of trading; Commercial activity, promotion of goods in Japan; responsible for procurement and maintenance of contacts with distributors and wholesalers in Japan, U.S.A., South Africa.

#### 1986 – 1987: UNIVERSITY ASSISTANT

Type of business : Academic Field  
Title of post : University Assistant  
Employer : Universities of Rome

Description of duties : Assistant to the Chair of Languages and Literatures of Asia at “La Sapienza” University, Faculty of Philosophy and Literature;  
Assistant to the Chair of History and Juridical Institutions of East Asia at L.U.I.S.S. University, Faculty of Political Science.

MEMBERSHIP'S LIST OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES & ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN CIVIL OR PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:

- Association for Japanese Studies
- Franco-Italian Association for Industrial & Technological Research
- National Center for Research & Development of Materials
- European Network for Specialized Training and Research
- Italian Aerospace Industry Association
- European Civil Manufacturing Aerospace Association
- Atlantic Treaty Association of N.A.T.O.
- European Association of Non Governmental Organizations
- Society for International Development
- Fondazione Bellisario
- Rotary International

NATIONAL – INTERNATIONALS TITLES AND AWARDS :

- Commendatore della Repubblica Italiana
- Medaglia d'oro al Valore, Regione Lombardia
- Premio Straordinario Marisa Bellisario 2004 "mela d'oro";
- Valore Donna 2004, comune di Milano Assessorato Politiche Sociali;
- Ambrogino d'Oro 2004 comune di Milano;
- Angelo della Pace 2004 Fondazione Ambrosini,
- Premio Unione Generale del Lavoro 2004;
- Premio Fondazione Cirri 2004
- Premio Professionale Donna 2006, Verona
- Premio per la Pace regione Veneto, Vicenza 2007
- Premio Speciale per i Diritti Umani, Catania 2009
- Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary Roma 2004
- Premio regione Lazio 2004
- Rosa Camuna 2004, regione Lombardia
- Premio Teodelinda 2004, Monza

- Premio Rabbiamore 2004, Roma
  - Riconoscimento comune di Bolzano 2004
  - Riconoscimento comune di Assisi 2004
  - Premio Donna Coraggio 2005 Ande, Brescia
  - Premio Rotary International, Bergamo 2005
  - Premio Internazionale Fondazione Silone, Sulmona 2005
  - Riconoscimento Università di Siena 2005
  - Riconoscimento Soroptimist, Modena 2005
  - Premio Internazionale per la Pace 2005, Foggia
  - Menzione Speciale per la Pace regione Lombardia 2005
-

Dr. Abdelwahad Radi  
President  
Inter Parliamentary Union  
Chemin du Pommier 5  
1218 Grand Saconnex - Geneva  
Switzerland

Rome, 26 August 2013

Dear President Radi,

I would like to take this opportunity to express to you my feelings of gratitude for the great experience I have had in these past five years as a member of the organization you chair. It has been a real honor and a pleasure being part of the International Parliamentary Union.

IPU has been known to me all through my long professional career, at first with international organizations such as the UNDP, OSCE, Coalition Provisional Authority and finally with the Italian Senate. In my professional career, I have been appointed as International Programme Officer in Bangladesh, Regional Director in Bosnia-Erzegovina, Governor Coordinator in Iraq, Special Envoy in Sudan and President of the Italian Hospitals in the World.

However it is when you can see it from the inside, that you learn the most about any organization and its mission.

Ever since I was appointed as member of IPU, the bond with the organization has grown ever so strong and the experiences I had in my position within IPU have contributed to further broaden my knowledge of the international community, its dynamics and its political scope.

I have always been and will continue to be a strong advocate of IPU, both in Italy and abroad, believing it can contribute to the resolution of some of the world's most difficult problems associated with democracy, peace and cooperation among people.

It is with a sense of humility and passion that I would like to put forward my application to the position of IPU Secretary General.

As I set out to write my supporting statement, I asked myself what I could possibly bring to the organization and what skills of mine could be relevant to the fulfillment of its goals.

IPU is engaged in a wide range of issues, from promoting international peace and security, to upholding human rights and democracy, to working for gender equality and ensuring women's access to politics.

To an international institution whose activities span the globe, I would be honored to offer what I was able to build over twenty-eight years of work and namely an international experience, technical abilities, field competencies and a flare for languages.

As my CV illustrates, I have been fortunate enough to match my academic background with on-the-field activities specifically concerned with areas such as international crisis management and humanitarian assistance; peacekeeping operations and human rights; security matters, EU legislations and gender issues.

I have great experience in managing large budgets and administrate large number of personnel, particularly in international environment .

My firm commitment to work for a greater good has taught me to develop and master different behavioural and cultural registers to ensure correct communication and a holistic and experiential approach to life issues.

By surfing the seas of politics and diplomacy, it was possible for me to reach out to the people and get to the heart of the problems at stake. Several European, Middle-Eastern, African and Asian countries have been home to some very critical situations which saw me in the forefront of international actions, where there was much to be learnt and a lot to be done.

Health and gender equality have always been two of my top priorities. I have cherished the opportunity of supporting the promotion of health through the Association of Italian Hospitals in the World and never felt more motivated than when dealing with ways to affirm the key-role women play in furthering development in the world.

I have pondered over the vacancy posted on the website for a new Secretary-General.

What I can tell you is that I would be ready to stand to the challenge with an open heart, determination and professionalism. Whether I have the vision, the talent and the experience you are looking for, it is for you to say.

Let me thank you in advance for the time you will take to consider my application for the position of Secretary-General.

Your Sincerely

Barbara Contini

Via Ludovisi 35

00187 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 3286065275

e-mail: sen.barbaracontini@gmail.com