

Irwin Cotler



Irwin Cotler is a international human rights lawyer, professor of law at McGill University and director of its Human Rights Program from 1973 until 1999. During his legal career, he represented Nelson Mandela, Jacobo Timmerman, Muchtar Pakpahan, as well as other prominent political prisoners and dissidents.

In 1999, he was elected as Member of Parliament, and a year later, was appointed special advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the International Criminal Court. From 2003 to 2006, he served as Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.

Since leaving politics 2015 Irwin has remained deeply engaged in efforts to promote peace and justice in this country, and on the global stage.

Richard Harmston



Richard Harmston is a former chair of the G78, a former director of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (now Cooperation Canada), a former director of the International Student Movement for the United Nations (Geneva) and a founding board director of the North South Institute. Throughout his career, he has engaged with numerous international development institutions, advocating for community development, global peace and security, gender equality and many other socio-political issues. He continues to be deeply involved in the G78.