

## **Mitja Gaspari, Minister without Portfolio Responsible for Development and European Affairs**



Mitja Gaspari was born on 25 November 1951 in Ljubljana.

In 1975, he graduated in financial and monetary economics from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Ljubljana. He earned his MSc in monetary economics at the Faculty of Economics in Belgrade.

He began his career at the Bank of Slovenia where he first worked as an analyst in 1981 and then as the Director of the Analysis and Research Centre. In 1987 he became Deputy Governor of the Bank of Slovenia and then Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Yugoslavia. In September 1991 he went to work for the World Bank in Washington D.C. for a year. He worked as a Senior Financial Economist in the Trade & Finance Division, Technical Department and the Europe & USSR Region. Between 1992 and 2000 he was Minister of Finance of the Republic of Slovenia. In the autumn of 2000 he was elected an MP, but gave up his seat in April 2001 to become Governor of the Bank of Slovenia.

During his mandate Slovenia successfully introduced the euro as the country's currency. He has written several articles for international journals and publications and participated in numerous debates and conferences. Before he became Minister without Portfolio Responsible for Research and European Affairs, he worked at the Economic Institute of the Law School.