

# John Bernhard Henriksen

## Personalia

- Birthdate and place: 8 March 1962, Guovdageaidnu/Kautokeino, Norway

## Education

- 1997 – 1999 [UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL](#) ..... BRISTOL
- **Master of Science (MSc)** in International Policy.
- 1996: [THE NORWEGIAN ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION](#) ..... OSLO
- Compulsory Advocacy Course  
Compulsory course for lawyers who wish to obtain Attorney-at-law license in Norway.
- 1994: [INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS](#) ..... GENEVA
- Internship  
Two months internship with the ISHR, an international human rights advocacy NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The organisation provides orientation and technical assistance to non-governmental participants, witnesses, victims and human rights defenders, both in the field and during international sessions in Geneva.
- 1986 – 1991: UNIVERSITIES OF [BERGEN](#) AND [TROMSØ](#) ..... BERGEN/TROMSØ
- Law School  
Norwegian Law degree. International Law as special subject.
- 1984 – 1985: NORWEGIAN BANKING ACADEMY ..... OSLO
- Economics and Psychology  
Studies in economics and psychology as part of banking studies. (part-time studies)
- 1983 – 1984: [NORWEGIAN ARMED FORCES](#) ..... PORSANGER
- Army Officer Training  
Army Officer Training, in connection with compulsory military service.
- 1982 – 1984: NORWEGIAN BANKING ACADEMY ..... OSLO
- General studies of banking  
Two years part-time studies.
- 1978 – 1982: HOLSTBAKKEN UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL ..... ALTA

## Practical experience

- 2004 - [JARUMA AS](#) ..... KARASJOK/OSLO  
**Senior Adviser**
- 2004 - ATTORNEY-AT-LAW ..... OSLO
- 2002 – 2003 [THE ROYAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF NORWAY](#) ..... OSLO  
**Adviser**

Main assignments:

- Coordination and follow-up of human rights issues at the UN Commission on Human Rights, Economic and Social Council and 3<sup>rd</sup> Committee of the General Assembly;
- Thematic responsibilities: Indigenous peoples, minorities, human rights defenders, racism and racial discrimination, freedom of expression, human rights in post-conflict situations, and UN treaty bodies;
- Negotiations on the Draft UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

- International human rights tribunals, including the International Criminal Court of Justice;
- Human rights situation in a number of Asian countries;
- Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in national inter-ministerial working groups on minority and indigenous Saami policy working groups respectively;
- Human rights resource person in the Sudan peace process (The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Peace Process).

2002 – NORDIC GROUP OF EXPERTS ON SAAMI RIGHTS

**Alternate Expert**

- The Expert Group, which is appointed by the Governments of Finland, Norway and Sweden, is mandated to prepare a draft Nordic Convention on the Rights of the Indigenous Saami People in the above-mentioned countries. Appointed by the Government of Norway as participating alternate member to the Chairman of the Group of Experts, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Norway, Dr. Carsten Smith.

2000 – 2001 BOREALIS PRODUCTIONS AS.....OSLO

**Executive Chairman**

- Executive Chief and co-owner of the company (film production).

2000 – 2002 NATIONAL LEGAL COMMISSION ON ETHNIC DISCRIMINATION

**Member of Commission**

The governmental appointed Commission, mandated to review Norwegian national legislation on racial and ethnic discrimination, and to propose necessary legal measures to improve the protection against racial and ethnic discrimination, including a national monitoring system. The proposals are contained in White Paper NOU 2002:12.

1999 – 2001 LAW FIRM GEIR HAUGEN .....OSLO

**Associate Attorney-at-law / Attorney-at-law**

- Civil law.

1999 – 2001 [THE SAAMI COUNCIL](#) ..... OHCEJOHKA/UTSJOKI, FINLAND

**Human Rights Coordinator and Permanent Representative to the UN**

- The Saami Council is an indigenous Saami NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC and the International Labour Organization (ILO). The organization is the non-governmental branch of the indigenous Saami people in Finland, Russian Federation, Norway and Sweden.

**Adviser on policy and legal issues.**

- Coordinator of human rights training programme for indigenous representatives in Africa and Asia, entitled “Indigenous Peoples: International Human Rights Standards and the Policy Process”.

1996 – 1999 [THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS](#) ..... GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

**Expert / Human Rights Officer**

- Human Rights Officer/Expert at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. Assigned responsibilities pertaining to the human rights of indigenous peoples. Responsible for the preparation of substantive reports, legal research and documentation to the General Assembly, Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Human Rights. Organization of meetings on indigenous issues and preparation of substantive documentation.
- A large number of field missions to various countries on behalf of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

- Responsible for development, preparations, commencement, coordination and implementation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights' Indigenous Fellowship Programme – a training programme for indigenous peoples in the field of international human rights and international policy processes.
- 1995 – 1996 SELF-EMPLOYED HUMAN RIGHTS CONSULTANT .....LONDON/GENEVA  
**Human Rights Consultant**
- 1994 – 1995 [THE SAMI PARLIAMENT](#) (THE SAMETING) .....KARASJOK  
**Adviser**
- 1992 – 1994 INNER-FINNMARK LEGAL AID OFFICE .....KARASJOK  
**Director / Lawyer**
- Governmental Legal Aid Office serving five municipalities in Finnmark County in Northern Norway. Cases involved civil law.
- 1992 – 1993 [THE SAAMI COUNCIL](#) .....UTSJOKI, FINLAND  
**Member of Legal Committee**
- Appointed as member of the Saami Council's Legal Committee, which was mandated to draft a proposal for a framework convention on indigenous Saami rights between Finland, Russian Federation, Norway and Sweden.
- 1991 – 1994 [THE SAAMI COUNCIL](#) .....UTSJOKI, FINLAND  
**Human Rights Adviser and Permanent Representative to the UN**
- Human Rights Adviser and Permanent UN Representative of the Saami Council.
- 1985 – 1986 [SPAREBANKEN NORD-NORGE](#) ..... KAUTOKEINO  
**Head of Department**
- Responsible for personnel management, information and business clients.
- 1982 – 1984 [SPAREBANKEN NORD-NORGE](#) ..... KAUTOKEINO  
**Business Client sAdviser**
- Business Client Adviser.
- 1976 – 1982 [SPAREBANKEN NORD-NORGE](#) ..... KAUTOKEINO  
**Bank employee (part time).**

## Languages

- Saami, native tongue
- Norwegian (oral and written)
- English (oral and written)