

## **Božidar Djelić**

Djelić was born in Belgrade in 1965, but primarily educated in France, where he excelled in academics at an early age. He received a double master's degree in economics in 1987 at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris, writing a thesis on the effects of exchange-rate instability on economic growth. He graduated as a top student from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, and the elite French business school Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales. Djelić eventually moved to the United States, where he completed an MBA at the Harvard Business School and specialized in macroeconomics and international relations at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Djelić helped shape Poland's transition reforms from 1991 to 1992, working on projects aimed at mass privatisation and macro-economic stabilisation. He also played a role in the establishment of the Warsaw Stock Exchange. Afterwards he made his way to Russia, where he worked as an advisor to Anatoly Chubais, the prime minister at that point. He was then tapped for director of Russia's macro-economy cabinet. In this capacity, he participated in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the European Union.

Djelić has been a partner since 1991 in McKinsey & Company, a leading consulting firm. He has been on unpaid leave since 13 November 2000, when newly appointed Deputy Prime Minister Miroljub Labus asked him to serve as lead negotiator with international financial institutions. After the Serbian parliamentary elections in January 2001, Djelić became the Minister of Finance and Economy.