

Jean-Daniel Ruch | Class of 1986

Jean-Daniel Ruch is an experienced diplomat with a career spanning over three decades. After his studies, he joined the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) in 1992, where he held key positions, including as Swiss Ambassador to Belgrade, Tel Aviv, and Ankara. He also served as Political Adviser to Carla Del Ponte at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Known for his diplomatic expertise, Jean-Daniel Ruch focused on conflict resolution and peacebuilding, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. A skilled statesman and negotiator, his career exemplifies a steadfast commitment to Swiss neutrality and mediation.



With experience as Ambassador in conflict zones, Jean-Daniel Ruch has developed a unique perspective on violence. His work reflects a commitment to understanding the historical and cultural roots of contemporary global conflicts.



From 2003, Jean-Daniel Ruch served four years as Political Adviser to Carla Del Ponte. This role allowed him to engage closely with the prosecution of war crimes, gaining invaluable experience in international justice and human rights issues.



© RUCH, Jean-Daniel, 2024. Crimes et tremblements — D'une guerre froide à l'autre au service de la paix et de la justice. Éditions Favre.

Jean-Daniel Ruch's book Crimes, Hate, and Tremors (2024) reflects on his diplomatic career, exploring violence, and international relations. He also critiques today's strong polarisation and the categorisation of good and evil without nuance.



