RICARDO DÍEZ-HOCHLEITNER RODRÍGUEZ

Born in Bogotá (Colombia), he has been a Spanish diplomat since 1979. He graduated in Law from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and holds a Diploma in International Relations from the Escuela Diplomática.

He began his diplomatic career in the offices of Ministers Oreja and Pérez-Lorca. After serving for 5 years in theSpanish diplomatic representation in Germany (1981-86), he joined the State Secretariat for European Communities (1986-1993) where he held various positions until becoming Director General for Community Technical Coordination (1990-93). He served as Spain'sAmbassadortotheDominicanRepublic (1993-95), Austria (1996-2000), the OECD (2011-2015), and Morocco (2015-24).

Between 1995 and 1996, he wasDirector General of the International Department in the Office of the President of the Government; from 2000 to 2002, Director General for European Foreign Policy; and from 2002 to 2011, Secretary General of the Royal Household (with the Rank of StateSecretary).

Promoted to the Rank of Ambassador of Spain in 2019, he has received various foreign and Spanish decorations, including the Grand Crosses of Carlos III, Civil Merit, MilitaryMerit, and Naval Merit, as well as the Cross oftheOrderoftheCanaryIslands.

He is a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, and serves on the boards of the Bertelsmann Foundations, United World Colleges, Three Cultures of the Foundation, Architecture and Society, and the Spanish Chapter of the Club of Rome.