



Mrs. Adela Raz is the Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United States of America. She is also the designated non-resident Ambassador to Argentina, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and Colombia.

Ambassador Raz possesses 12 years of extensive experience in political and economic analysis, policy development, media and communication, and governance, and has worked with various Afghan governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and local and international organizations.

She previously served as Afghanistan's first female Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the United Nations from December 2018 until July 2021. Ambassador Raz was the Vice President of the 75th session of the General Assembly and was appointed by the President of the General Assembly to serve as the General Assembly's co-coordinator on COVID-19-related initiatives.

Prior to her appointment to the United Nations, Ambassador Raz was the Deputy Minister for Economic Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from March 2016 to December 2018. Among other bilateral and multilateral responsibilities, she contributed and led efforts in the two major Afghanistan-centered regional cooperation platforms: the Regional Economic Cooperation Conferences on Afghanistan (RECCA) and the Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process (HoA-IP).

In 2013, she served as the first female Deputy Spokesperson and Director of Communications for President Hamid Karzai. After President Ashraf Ghani took office in 2014, he appointed her as the Chief of Staff of the Administrative Office of the President .

She began her career with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) in and continued to work in a variety of positions at international development organizations in the U.S. and Afghanistan. Notably, she managed the Afghanistan portfolio at ACDI/VOA in Washington, DC.

Ambassador Raz holds an MA degree in Law and Diplomacy with a focus on Economic Development from the Fletcher School at Tufts University. She holds a triple BA with honors in International Relations, Political Science, and Economics from Simmons University in Boston, USA. She also obtained a certificate in International Development from the Fletcher School at Tufts University.

Ambassador Raz is married and has two children.