

Short biography

Ambassador **Federico Alberto Gonzalez Franco**
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ambassador Federico Alberto Gonzalez Franco was sworn in as Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Paraguay on October 13, 2020.

Previously, under the Administration of President Mario Abdo Benitez, he served simultaneously as Advisor to the President of the Republic for International Affairs (with the rank of Cabinet Minister), Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Administrative Board of “Itaipu Binacional” and Executive Coordinator of the Interinstitutional Coordination Center to support the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. Before that, he was Director General of the State Protocol at the President’s Office (with the rank of Cabinet Minister).

At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Gonzalez Franco was Deputy Foreign Minister in three opportunities (2006-2007, 2014 and 2017-2018), as well as Deputy Minister for Economic Relations and Integration and National Coordinator of the Common Market Group of MERCOSUR (2013-2014), Chief of Staff to the Foreign Minister (1996-1997, 2001-2003), Director General of Multilateral Policy (2002-2004) and Director General of Protocol (2012-2013), among other positions.

In the Foreign Service, he was appointed Ambassador to Korea (2004-2006), Venezuela (2008-2009) and Argentina (2016-2017), as well as Ambassador - Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization (WTO) and international specialized organizations based in Geneva (2009-2011), and to the United Nations (UN), in New York (2015-2016). Ambassador Gonzalez Franco was also posted at the Paraguayan Embassies in Washington, DC (1992-1996) and London (1997-2001).

In the international organizations field, he was elected Vice President of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly and Chairman of the WTO Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Council).

Foreign Minister Gonzalez Franco holds a Law degree from the National University of Asuncion and he is graduated from the Diplomatic and Consular Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay. He has a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from Georgetown University, a Master in International Business from the University of Maryland, as well as studies at the Inter American Defense College.

He was born on June 14, 1968 and has been a career diplomat since 1992. He is married to Mrs. Silvia Riquelme de Gonzalez and has two daughters.