



**PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

- My career, which spans nearly six decades at the highest level, has involved diplomacy, public relations, international consultancy, and political analysis. I was an academic and also CEO of the South African Broadcasting Corp. (1983-1988).

**SKILLS**

- International relations and Diplomatic negotiation
- Networking abilities and Protocol adherence
- Critical and Analytical thinking
- Effective and Excellent communication; Public speaking; Public Relations Strategies
- Research, Policy Analysis and Decision making
- Advisor for Tourism to Namibia

**EXPERIENCE**

- First diplomatic assignment: South African Embassy, Washington D.C. February 1968 – March 1973
- Head of UN and Namibia desk in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pretoria and Cape Town April 1973 – September 1976
- Ambassador and Head of Mission, New York October 1976 – January 1981
- Head of Planning in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pretoria and Cape Town January 1981 – February 1983
- CEO: South African Broadcasting Corp. March 1983 – April 1988
- Ambassador and Head of Mission, Namibia May 1990 – January 1992
- Ambassador and Head of Mission, UN Geneva February 1992 – February 1995
- Ambassador and Head of Mission, Turkey (with accreditation to Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) March 1995 –

	June 1997
International Consultant; Business Facilitator; Advisor for Tourism to Namibia, with Swakopmund, Namibia, as home base	July 1997 – Present
Senior Research Associate in the Office of the Dean, Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg	January 2020 – Present
Research Associate, Department of Political Studies and Governance, Faculty: The Humanities, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein	January 2023 – Present

## DIPLOMATIC CAREER

Served under Hendrik Verwoerd, John Vorster, P.W. Botha, F.W. de Klerk and Nelson Mandela. Member of South Africa's legal team in the court case in the ICJ, Head of the UN and Namibian divisions, and Head of Planning in the Foreign Ministry, Served at, South African Embassy in Washington, D.C. (1968-1973), 1976-1981, UN New York; 1990-1991, Namibia; 1992-1995, UN Geneva, 1995-1997, Turkey, with accreditation to Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Since his posting in Washington in 1968, he has studied the foreign policies of eleven U.S. presidents and has followed 14 presidential elections. In 1974, he was awarded a master's degree cum laude for his dissertation on "The role of the Senate of the USA in foreign affairs". In 2018, his doctoral thesis dealt in part on the role of the US Supreme Court in shaping foreign affairs. The following year, a commercial edition of this thesis was published in Europe.

## DEGREES

- B.A., University of Pretoria, 1963, Roman-Dutch Law, Political Science, German
- B.A. Honours, University of South Africa, 1971
- M.A. (*Cum Laude*), University of South Africa, 1974, *The Role of the USA Senate in Foreign Affairs*
- D Litt. et Phil., University of Johannesburg, 2018, *The Role of the High Courts of the United States of America, South Africa and the European Union in Foreign Affairs*

## AUTHOR OF

- *The Role of the Highest Courts of the United States of America and South Africa, and the European Court of Justice in Foreign Affairs*, Asser Press/Springer, 07/2019, <https://bit.ly/2Myozpv> and <https://www.riaaneksteen.com/book> and reviewed in Greek Journal Public Law Journal, 5, 3-4, 2020
- *Does your company have a foreign policy and the instruments to execute it?* <https://www.riaaneksteen.com/webinar-presentationon-foreign-policy-for-a-company-4-february-2021/>
- *Memoir (Beyond Diplomacy)*, 10/2022, <https://www.riaaneksteenmemoirs.com/home/>

<https://www.einpresswire.com/article/598959159/publication-of-riaan-eksteen-smemoirs-beyond-diplomacy?r=pamRkm8pMRNiXpJ2ot>

ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8317-2681>

## **VISITING PROFESSOR**

Tashkent State University of Law, Uzbekistan, 2021

## **LECTURES DELIVERED**

See ANNEXURE A attached

## **ACADEMIC WORK PUBLISHED**

See ANNEXURE B Attached

See ANNEXURE C for Articles and Presentations due in 2026

## **RESEARCHGATE READS**

Full details on the website of ResearchGate under Riaan Eksteen & Academia.edu: <https://eksteen.academia.edu/>

On 12 August 2025 ResearchGate confirmed that his research items reached 2,500 reads

## **BOARD MEMBER**

The Global Institute for Research, Education and Scholarship (GIREs), Amsterdam

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

South Africa Academy of Science and Arts

## **LINKEDIN CONTACTS**

14.298

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

- Title: Ph.D. and Emeritus Ambassador
- Date of Birth: 31 October 1942

- [www.riaaneksteen.com](http://www.riaaneksteen.com) and <https://www.riaaneksteenmemoirs.com>
  - @riaaneksteen
- 

### Lectures presented — 2019-2025

### ANNEXURE A

- “Brexit” at the Annual Conference of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association in Livingstone, Zambia, April 2019.
- “The Contribution of the European Court of Justice to the Methodology of International Law” to the International Law Associations Conference in Braga, Portugal, September 2019.
- “Deficiency in Foreign Policy Analysis: Role for the Judiciary in U.S. Foreign Affairs” in the Congress, the Presidency & Courts section for the 51st Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association meeting, in Philadelphia, USA, November 2019.
- “Relationship between Domestic Affairs and Foreign Affairs.” Lecture to students completing their Contemporary Diplomacy and International Relations course at the Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies of the Riphah International University, Islamabad, Pakistan, August 2020.
- Lecture to MBA Program Students, Center for International Business Education & Research, Fowler College of Business, San Diego State University, California, USA, 15 September 2020.
- “Foreign Policy for a Company” to the class session on Global Business and Diplomacy of the Department of Management, Fowler College of Business, San Diego State University, California, February 2021.
- “Views on China and Africa, especially Namibia” to the Seminar in World Business Environment, Fowler College of Business, San Diego State University, California, 4 October 2022.
- “The Importance of the European Court of Justice” at the International Congress on Current Debates in Social Sciences (CUDES) organised by the Sakarya University in Turkey, 29-30 September 2020.
- “The Role, Relevance, and Influence of High Courts and Judiciary in Foreign Affairs.” Keynote address when joined in conversation with the former Danish Foreign Minister, Dr Per Stig Møller. Organised and presented by the Center for Science & Commercial Diplomacy (CSCD) in Copenhagen, Denmark, November 2020.
- Twelve lectures as Visiting Professor at the Tashkent State University of Law, Uzbekistan, 2021.
- Several lectures as a board member of The Global Institute for Research, Education and Scholarship (GIRES) with its headquarters in Amsterdam ([www.gires.org](http://www.gires.org)) 2020-2022.
- Discussion with members of “The International Team for the Study of Security—Verona,” an international, interdisciplinary, apolitical, cultural association dedicated to the study of international security, 2021.
- Webinar with the Youth Academy of the Center for Science & Commercial Diplomacy (CSCD) at the University of Copenhagen, 7 March 2023.
- Speaker at Center for Science and Commercial Diplomacy (CSCD) at the University of Copenhagen, 12 October 2023, with a discussion with students about “A Life in International Diplomacy”.

- Lecture to Center for International Business Education & Research (SDSU CIBER), Fowler College of Business, San Diego State University, on 24 October 2023. The subject was "BRICS Expansion and its Implications for Politics and Global Business".
- Presentation on "The Importance and Significance of South Africa's National Day, Freedom Day", on 18 April 2024 to employees of an international company headquartered in Amsterdam. The text is also available on <https://www.riaaneksteen.com/freedom-day-the-importance-and-significance-of-south-africas-national-day/> and also per <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.36097.26724>
- Presentation at the 23rd Annual International Conference on Politics and International Studies of the Athens Institute's Politics and International Affairs Unit, June 2025. "Should BRICS be taken seriously?" The Institute will publish an extended version.
- Presentation at the Symposium of the Pionier Institute of Dr. Heinrich Matthee in Stellenbosch on 14 August 2025. "Foreign Policy Making in the Trump Era."
- Presentation on Geopolitics in the Global Marketplace to recognize Geostrategic Imperatives at the Seminar of World Business Environment, Fowler College of Business, San Diego State University, on 4 November 4, 2025.
- Presentation on Reflections on a Diplomatic Career in the South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Elon University, Department of Political Science & Policy Studies, North Carolina, 10 November 2025.

#### Articles published — 2019-2025

#### ANNEXURE B

- "Brexit — The ECJ Conundrum for the UK" *American Bar Association's Newsletter*, June 2019
- "Role of European Court of Justice in Foreign Affairs", *Universitas* (India) Vol. 13, (ISSN 2229-5542), September 2020. [Publication is circulated to all the authors, Editorial Board members, National Advisory Board, International Advisory Board, National Judicial Academy in India, faculty members of Law Schools, Universities in India and prominent persons from the Bench and the Bar in India.]
- "The Importance of the European Court of Justice", a chapter included in *Conflict & Peace In International Politics: Issues, Actors and Approaches*. Edited by Kenar N. and Shaw I. London. IJOPEC Publication. (Published on 26 December 2020 — ISBN 978-1-913809-10-2.) The co-editors of this special issue have been invited to present this chapter.
- "Diplomatic and Consular Protection with special reference to Article 46 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights". (Published as a chapter in a Special Issue of *The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union: The First Ten Years — New Challenges and Perspectives* published by Laws (ISSN 2075-471X on 24 December 2020). The co-editors of this special issue have been invited to present this chapter. [At the end of December 2024, the article was viewed 4.392 times, according to the publisher.]
- "The Contribution of the European Court of Justice to the Methodology of International Law" published in *The Contribution of the Case-Law of International Courts and Tribunals to the Development of International Law*. Edited by Teles, Patrícia and Manuel Ribeiro, who were the organisers of the Braga Conference in September 2019.
- Interview published in *Erga Omnes* issued by the Weeramantry Centre for Peace, Justice and International Law, India, 6 September 2020.
- "Thoughts on Living during the Restrictive Times of Covid-19" *The Namibian*, August 2020.

- “The Role of the Judiciary in Foreign Affairs to be duly recognised, with special reference to the Supreme Court of the USA” *Stellenbosch Law Review*, October 2021.
- “Frederik W. de Klerk: Presidential Years in the International Arena”. *Political Science Quarterly*, December 2023.
- “The Alien Tort Statute is no longer available to Foreigners to Claim for Wrong-doings on Foreign Soil” *Stellenbosch Law Review*, December 2023.
- Following published in the *Journal of Humanities* (South African Academy for Science and Arts):
  - “The Role of the High Courts of the United States of America, South Africa and the European Union in Foreign Affairs”, (March 2019).
  - “Brexit’s political and economic consequences and historical realities” (June 2019).
  - “The effect of domestic affairs on foreign policy, with specific reference to current events in the United States of America” (September 2019).
  - “Brexit: Next Challenges for a New Era”, (March 2020).
  - “The Constitutional Requirements and Processes to Remove a President of the USA from Office, with special reference to President Trump” (September 2020).
  - “Challenges and Opportunities in practising Diplomacy — Before, during and after COVID-19”, (March 2022).
  - Book reviewed: Dr Leopold Scholtz’s *Terreur en Bevryding: Die ANC/SAKP, die Kommunisme en Geweld [1961-1990]*, (June 2022).
  - “Historical perspective: Reasons for and consequences of the involvement by great powers in the Suez Canal (Egypt), in particular before 1956 (Part I)” (June 2023).
  - “Nationalisation of the Suez Canal and the International Repercussions (Part II)” (December 2023).
  - “The Suez aftermath: Personalities and colonialism, (Part III)”, (March 2024).
  - “The Suez aftermath: South Africa and liberation movements, (Part IV)”, (March 2024). [According to ACADEMIA, my name has been mentioned in 456 papers, books, drafts, theses, and syllabi articles.]
  - “Reflection on Brexit I: Repercussions after nine years”, 65(3), September 2025.
  - “Reflection on Brexit II: The EU and the UK after Brexit”, 65 (3), September 2025, pp. 880-908.
- “The Inability of South Africa to Comprehend the Foreign Policy Apparatus and the Political Climate in the United States of America Correctly” Part I, *Scientia Militaria* - South African Journal of Military Studies, Vol. 53, No. 2, 2025, pp. 75-108. (Article posted by the Research Institute for European and American Studies (RIEAS), which is based in Athens. Done with copyright to Scientia Militaria. <https://rieas.gr/researchareas/editorial/5026-the-inability-of-south-africa-to-comprehend-the-foreign-policy-apparatus-and-the-political-climate-in-the-united-states-of-america-correctly>)
- “Should BRICS be taken seriously?” Athens Journal of Politics & International Affairs, Volume 2, Issue 1, March 2026, pp. 45-72. <https://www.athensjournals.gr/politics/2026-2-1-3-Eksteen.pdf>

- “BRICS do not escape the impact and consequences of the US and Israel's military actions against Iran.” The article was published in Afrikaans by Maroela Media on 13 March 2026 with this link: <https://maroelamedia.co.za/debat/diskoers/brics-kan-iran-oorlog-nie-ontsnap-nie/>  
English text available on LinkedIn with this link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/riaan-eksteen-phd-amb-ret-95aa421/overlay/Position/2867299255/treasury/?profileId=ACoAAABU3tYBXERP5Zd3uGNJrOXrCqGypUSclhw>
- “Escalating tension between members of BRICS.” Published by *Politicsweb* on 14 May 2026. <https://www.politicsweb.co.za/news/the-escalating-tensions-within-brics>
- “The split in BRICS is confirmed as real.” Published by *Politicsweb* on 17 May 2026. <https://www.politicsweb.co.za/news/the-split-in-brics-is-confirmed-as-real>
- Miscellaneous
  - Nasionale Versoening in Namibië – Historiese Perspektief, 21 Maart 2023 / National Reconciliation in Namibia – Historical Perspective, 21 March 2023. <https://maroelamedia.co.za/debat/meningsvormers/nasionale-versoening-in-namibie-n-historiese-perspektief/>
  - Opmerkinge oor dr Henry Kissinger op sy 100ste verjaardag, 27 Mei 2023, / Remarks on Dr Henry Kissinger on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. <https://www.riaaneksteen.com/opmerking-kissinger/>
  - So onthou ek Henry Kissinger / This is how I remember Henry Kissinger/, *Rapport*, 10 December 2023.
  - Sam Nujoma: An obituary. *Politicsweb*, 25 February 2025. <https://www.politicsweb.co.za/opinion/obituary-president-samuel-nujoma>

## Articles done and publications due in 2026

## ANNEXURE C

- Articles
  - The Influence of the European Court of Justice on the Domestic Policies and Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom
  - The Case of the European Union against the United Kingdom in the European Court of Justice
  - The Impact of Domestic Affairs on Foreign Affairs: USA and South Africa as case studies
  - Buitelandse beleidsbeginsels van President Donald Trump: Deel 1 – Foreign Policy Principles of President Donald Trump: Part 1
  - Toepassing van President Donald Trump se leerstelling van "Amerika Eerste" op die VSA se buitelandse beleid: Deel 2 – Gevallestudies – Application of President Donald Trump's Doctrine of "America First" to the Foreign Policy of the USA: Part 2 – Case Studies
  - Die stand van verhoudinge tussen die VSA en Europa sedert die begin van president Trump se tweede ampstermyn – The state of relations between the USA and Europe since the beginning of President Trump's second term