

Akaash Maharaj **Chief Executive Officer**



Akaash Maharaj is CEO of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC), and leads the international alliance of legislators in its work combatting corruption, strengthening good government, and upholding the rule of law. GOPAC has sixty-two national chapters, and is present in every region of the world.

In addition to his overall responsibilities, Akaash directs GOPAC's project on international prosecution of Crimes Against Humanity, its efforts on institution building in fragile states, and its work on reconciliation in post-conflict states.

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration selected him to speak for the world's legislators in the General Assembly Chamber, on bringing kleptocrats to justice.

His articles have been published by newspapers in every populated continent, he appeared as a broadcast essayist with TVOntario's "The Agenda", and *Macleans*' magazine named him as one of Canada's 50 "most well known and respected personalities".

As an athlete, and he was a triple gold medallist at the International Championships of Equestrian Skill-at-Arms. He subsequently led the overall Canadian Equestrian Team and federation as CEO, to the team's most successful Olympics and Paralympics of all time. He remains committed to advancing integrity in the global sport system, and is a Director of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport.

Akaash earned his MA from Oxford University in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, and was the first overseas student elected President of the student government in Oxford's history. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, of the Royal Asiatic Society, and of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

He has been decorated twice in Canada's national honours, for his work on peace in the Middle East and for his services to integrity in international sport. He has also been commissioned a Kentucky Colonel, the state's highest honour, for his contributions to global affairs.

An active volunteer, he has taught adult literacy, has served as a director on a range of international development and local community boards, and has been particularly involved with UNICEF's efforts on childhood and maternal welfare. He is fluent in English and French.

Akaash's personal web site is www.Maharaj.org.