

Iftekharuzzaman (Iftekhar PhD Zaman), in Economics, is the Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB). Before joining TIB in September 2004, he was Executive Director of Bangladesh Freedom Foundation (1991-2004), Executive Director of Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka (1995-99), Senior Fellow Research and Research Director of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (1982-95).

He had his graduation with Honours in Economics from University of Dhaka, Masters from Academy of Economics, Wroclaw, and PhD in Economics from Central School of Planning and Statistics in Warsaw. He worked as a post-doctoral fellow in International Relations Department of University of Tokyo. In earlier student life he had the distinction of securing the first position in HSC examination of Humanities Group of the Jessore Education Board in 1968.

Dr. Zaman is the first Bangladeshi to have been elected to the International Board of Directors of Transparency International in 2008. He was later re-elected in 2012 to the TI Board for a second and in 2015 for the current third term. During this period he had the experience of serving in several Board Committees including the Ethics Committee, Audit Committee, Finance Committee, and Saving Anti-corruption Fighters Efforts (SAFE) Committee. He is currently a member of the Amalia Awards Committee 2019 of TI. He has been called upon by TI for expert support on addressing governance challenges of several TI chapters in the Asia-Pacific region. He frequently serves as Speaker/Resource Person in various public and non-governmental institutions and national and international fora. As head of TIB, Dr Zaman has been overseeing and leading the research and knowledge-based advocacy, communication and stakeholder engagement initiatives that have contributed to a series of legal, policy and institutional reforms for strengthening the governance and anti-corruption infrastructure of Bangladesh.

Among his other current honorary involvements are: Trustee of Bangladesh Freedom Foundation, Bishwa Shahityo Kendro (World Literature Centre); Member of the International Commission on Chittagong Hill Tracts and International Research Committee of the Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo; and a founder-Core Group Member of the Citizens Platform for SDGs in Bangladesh.

Dr. Zaman was the first individual from countries of the developing South to be elected as Chair of the International Committee of the Washington DC-based Council on Foundations. He also served as Chair of the Governing Council of the Manila-based Asia-Pacific Philanthropy Consortium; Core Group Member of the Southampton-based Program for Promoting Nuclear Non-proliferation; and Coordinating Committee Member, Brussels-based Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmakers Support.

In recognition of his leadership in advocating against corruption and promoting transparency and good governance, Dr Zaman was awarded the first Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA) Award in May 2015. The award acknowledged his role to catalyze institutional, legal and policy reforms at national level, and effective application of participatory social accountability at institutional level engaging volunteers, particularly youth in Bangladesh.

Main areas of his current interest and expertise are governance, anti-corruption, people's engagement, social accountability, politics, development, South Asian inter-state relations, security and cooperation. He has written and published widely in and outside Bangladesh on these subjects.