



Photo courtesy of Senate of Canada

The Hon. Ratna Omidvar, P.C., OC

Appointed by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as an independent Senator for Ontario in 2016, Ratna is an internationally recognized expert on migration, diversity, and inclusion.

She is the founding executive director of—and currently a distinguished visiting professor at—the Global Diversity Exchange (GDX), Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University; a director at the Environics Institute; chair emerita of the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council; and a former chair of Lifeline Syria.

She co-authored *Flight and Freedom: Stories of Escape to Canada*, an Open Book Toronto “Best Books of 2015” selection, also among *Toronto Star's* “Top 5 Good Reads from Word on the Street.”

Appointed to the Order of Ontario in 2005, she was named to the Order of Canada because of her advocacy work on behalf of immigrants and dedication to reducing inequality (2011); in 2014, Ratna received Germany’s Cross of the Order of Merit in recognition of her contribution to the advancement of German-Canada relations.

