

**HE. Karima Bardaoui**  
**Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to South Africa**

**Ambassador Karima Bardaoui** is a career diplomat and currently serves as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tunisia to South Africa, with concurrent accreditation to Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, Botswana, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Eswatini. She was appointed to this post in August 2023 by H.E. President Kaïs Saïed during an official ceremony at the Carthage Palace.



**Professional Background**

Since joining the Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1997, Ambassador BARDAOUI has occupied several high-level diplomatic positions, including:

- Ambassador of Tunisia to the Czech Republic (2017–2019)
- Member of the Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations in New York, overseeing the Third Committee on social, humanitarian, and cultural issues (2014–2017)
- Counselor for Political, Communications and Press at the Tunisian Embassy in Paris (2006–2011)
- Director for the Americas at the Americas–Asia Directorate General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2019–2023)

As Ambassador to South Africa, she has led major economic, cultural, and scientific diplomacy initiatives, notably coordinating activities marking the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Tunisia and South Africa. She continues to actively deepen Tunisia’s bilateral ties with all countries under her accreditation, with strong engagement across political, economic, and people-to-people cooperation.

**Commitment to Science Diplomacy**

Ambassador BARDAOUI is a strong advocate of science diplomacy as a strategic tool to strengthen African cooperation, build knowledge-based partnerships, and promote innovation-driven development. She actively supports collaborations between Tunisian and Southern African universities, research institutions, and innovation ecosystems, notably under the African Union’s Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation (STISA-2034).

Her involvement in high-level initiatives reflects her vision of diplomacy that bridges scientific communities, mobilizes youth and researchers, and positions Tunisia as a connector between North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the broader Mediterranean scientific landscape. She consistently emphasizes the role of scientific exchange in addressing shared continental challenges—including climate adaptation, food security, health technologies, digital transformation, and women’s leadership.

**Education and Training**

Ambassador BARDAOUI holds a master’s degree in law and has completed advanced diplomatic and economic training in Europe, including programs in Madrid and at the École nationale d’administration (ENA) in Paris and Strasbourg. She has also undergone specialized training in international relations, public diplomacy, and crisis management at the Clingendael Institute (Netherlands), Deutsche Welle Akademie (Germany), and TUBITAK (Turkey). During her tenure in New York, she participated in workshops with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) focused on the drafting and negotiation of UN resolutions.

**Recognition**

Known for her dedication to intercultural dialogue, regional integration, and multilateral engagement, Ambassador BARDAOUI is widely recognized for her commitment to advancing Tunisia’s interests abroad. She champions a vision of an inclusive, innovative, and resilient Africa—one driven by shared prosperity, scientific excellence, and strengthened South-South cooperation.