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He is currently a Lecturer associated with the Development Planning Unit/DPU of University College London/UK; the Institute for Urban Development and Housing Studies - IHS in Rotterdam/The Netherlands, and the Teaching Faculty of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in Cambridge MA/USA; as well as a Visiting Lecturer at three Brazilian universities.

He is a founder and former coordinator of IRGLUS - International Research Group on Law and Urban Space, which is a partner of UN-HABITAT.

Before moving to the UK in 1988, he worked as a lawyer, city planner and as a lecturer in Brazil (1980-86) and as a legal advisor during the national Constitution-making process (1986-88).

His main research interests include land, urban and environmental law; land and urban planning, policy and management; informal land markets, urban land regularisation and land registration; local government and metropolitan administration; and constitutional law and human rights in developing and transition countries.

He has also been a consultant to many governmental and national and international non-governmental organisations, such as UN-HABITAT, UNDP, UNESCO, OSCE, World Bank, DfID, IHS and Urbaplan, having regularly worked in Brazil and most of Latin America, South Africa, Kosovo, Albania, Bulgaria, Cape Verde and elsewhere.

In 2003, he was Director of Land Affairs at the Ministry of Cities in Brazil, and in that capacity he formulated the National Programme to Support Sustainable Land Regularisation in Urban Areas.

He has published articles in academic and technical journals, contributed chapters to several books in English, Portuguese, Spanish and Italian. Besides several other books in Portuguese and Spanish, he is the author of *Law and Urban Change in Brazil* (1995, Avebury); co-editor of *Illegal Cities - Law and Urban Change in Developing Countries* (1998, Zed Books), *The Challenge of Environmental Management in Urban Areas* (Ashgate, 1999), and *Geoforum Urban Brazil Special Issue* (2001); and editor of *Environmental Strategies for Sustainable Development in Urban Areas: Lessons from Africa and Latin America* (1998, Ashgate).

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