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Mr. Gian Luca Burci is the Legal Counsel of the World Health Organization (WHO) since April 2005. Prior to that appointment, he served as senior legal officer in the Office of the Legal Counsel of WHO since June 1998. Between 1989 and 1998, Mr. Burci was legal officer in the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations. Mr Burci is the author of a book on the World Health Organization and of numerous articles on topics ranging from UN economic sanctions and peace-keeping operations to succession of States and the law and practice of the World Health Organization. He delivers lectures at universities in Switzerland and the United States and is a member of the Italian, American and European societies of international law.