

Journalist

Born on 1 March 1936 in Nuremberg.

Obtained *Abitur* (higher-education entrance qualification) in Frankfurt am Main in 1956. Studied sociology, philosophy and history in Hamburg and Münster; obtained doctorate under Helmut Schelsky in 1961.

Freelance author until 1975, then worked as a journalist at the NDR broadcasting corporation and on the ARD broadcasting corporation's current affairs television programme *Panorama* until 1985. ARD correspondent in London from 1985 to 1988. Head of the NDR features department from 1988 to 1991. Head of the ARD's London studio from 1991 to 1993. Editor-in-chief for television at Hessischer Rundfunk from 1994 until retiring in 2001; has since continued to work as a freelance journalist.

Awarded the Order of Merit of the state of Hesse in 2001.

Although not a party member, selected for first place on the list of candidates for the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS) in Hesse for the 2002 elections.

Member of the German Bundestag for Thuringia since 2005, member of the German Bundestag's Art Council and chairwoman of the German-Irish Parliamentary Friendship Group.

Membership of Bundestag bodies

Member

- Subcommittee on Cultural and Education Policy Abroad
- Committee on Cultural and Media Affairs