

Kurt Biedenkopf

Born 1930. 1949-50 Studies of Liberal Arts and Economics at Davidson College, Davidson N.C., USA. 1955 Law Degree in Frankfurt/Main. 1958 Doctor of Law, 1960 Bar Examination in Frankfurt/Main. 1962 Master of Law (LL.M.), Georgetown, Washington D.C., USA. 1963 Assistant Professor in Frankfurt/Main, 1964 Full Professor at the Ruhr-University Bochum. 1966-67 Dean, Law Faculty, 1967-69 President, Ruhr-University Bochum.

1968-70 Chairman of the Federal Expert Commission of the German Federal Government. 1971-73 Member of the Executive Board, Henkel KGaA, Düsseldorf. 1973-77 Secretary General of Christian Democratic Union (CDU); 1977-83 Deputy Chairman of CDU. 1980-88 Member of the State Parliament of North Rhine-Westphalia. Since 1983 Member of the Board of the CDU. 1987-90 Member of the Bundestag. 1990-2002 Minister-President of the Free State of Saxony.

From May 2003 on Trustee of the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, later Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Since 2003 President of the Dresden International University, since 2006 Honorary President. Beginning January 2011 a three-year research professorship at Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (Social Science Research Center); current project: "Democracy as Concept and Cultural Performance". In addition, he will devote the next few years, particularly literary works.

Honors as Doctor honoris causa from Davidson College, Davidson N.C., USA, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., USA, New School for Social Research,

New York City, USA, from the Catholic University of Brussels, Belgium, and from Handelshochschule (commercial college) in Leipzig.