



Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering

President of the European Parliament ret., Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

High-Level Military Forum

European Defence – common ambitions and national realities

Wednesday, 30th November 2016, 15:30 – 16:45 h

Hans-Gert Poettering was born on 15 September of 1945 in Bersenbrueck (Lower Saxony, Germany). He never knew his father who was killed in the final days of World War II. This personal tragedy was instrumental in shaping his political involvement and his career in European politics. Hans-Gert Poettering has two sons, Johannes and Benedict and two grandsons, Jakob and David.

STUDIES

- After Abitur (University Entrance Certification, 1966), two years military service, reserve officer
- Studies of Law, Political Science and History at the Universities of Bonn and Geneva as well as at the Institut des Hautes Études Internationales in Geneva (1968 - 1973)
- Study visit at Columbia University, NY (1971)
- First state law exam (1973)
- Conferral of Doctorate, Dr. phil. (1974)
- Second state law exam (1976)
- Research Assistant (1976-1979)
- Appointed Lecturer at the University of Osnabrueck (1989)
- Appointed honorary professor (1995)

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Honorary Member of the European Parliament

Only deputy who has been Member of the European Parliament continuously since the first direct election in 1979 till 2014

Since January 2010: Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Jan 2007 - Jul 2009: 12th President of the European Parliament since the first direct election

1999 – 2007: Chairman of the EPP-ED (christian democrats) group in the European Parliament

- 1994 – 1999: Vice-Chairman of the EPP group in the European Parliament
- since 2008: Chairman of the Working Group on the Middle East in the European Parliament
- since 2008: Chairman of the Board of Trustees for establishing a "House of European History"

Member of the Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs

- 1999 – 2009: Member of the Federal Board of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU, Germany), Member of the Federal Executive Committee
- 1999 – 2009: Member of the Executive Committee of the European People's Party EPP
- 1990 – 2010: Chairman of the CDU in the district of Osnabrueck
- 2008 – 2009: President of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly EMPA
- 1984 – 1994: Chairman of the subcommittee on "Security and Disarmament"
- 1996 – 1999: Supervisor of EPP/EPP group's working group "Enlargement of the European Union"
- 1994 – 1996: Supervisor of EPP/EPP group's working group on "Intergovernmental Conference 1996", drafting of the EPP position on the Amsterdam Treaty

Member of the Board of Directors of the Association for the "International Charlemagne Prize" of Aachen

- 2010 – 2014: Co-founder of the "European Charlemagne Youth Prize", awarded for the first time in 2008

Member of the Senate of the Max-Planck-Society

- 1997 – 1999: President of "Europa-Union" Germany
- 1981 – 1991: Chairman of "Europa-Union" Lower Saxony
- 1976 – 1980: Speaker on European affairs of the Young Christian Democrats of Lower Saxony
- 1974 – 1980: Chairman of the Christian Democrats local committee, city of Bersenbrueck
- 1974 – 1976: Chairman of the Young Christian Democrats regional committee, Osnabrueck county

HONOURS AND AWARDS (SELECTION)

- 2009: Honorary citizen of the city of Bersenbrueck, his birthplace
- 2010: Grand Cross of Merit with Star and Shoulder Ribbon of the Federal Republic of Germany

- 2007: Grand Cross of the Papal Order of St. Gregory
- 2014: Grand Cross of the Star of Romania
- 2013: Order of Merit to Lithuania with Cross of Commander
- 2013: Order of Merit with Grand Cross of the Hungarian Republic
- 2013: Knight Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland
- 2013: The Order of the Cross of Terra Mariana 1st class
- 2011: Commander of the National Order of the Legion of Honour of France
- 2011: Grand Cross of Civil Merit of the Kingdom of Spain
- 2011: Polish-German Prize
- 2008: Grand Cross of Merit of the Republic of Italy, "Cavaliere di Gran Croce Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana"
- 2009: Medal of the grand duke Jaroslaw the Wise, „Řád prince Jaroslava Moudrého“ (Nejvyšší ukrajinské vyznamenání), Ukraine
- 2009: “Three-Star-Medal” of the Republic of Latvia
- 2007: Great Cross of Merit of Queen Jelena with Star and Shoulder Ribbon, Croatia
- 2002: Grand Golden Medal of Merit, Republic of Austria
- 2002: 'Mérite Européen en or', Luxemburg
- 2014: Doctor Honoris Causa of the University Wrocław, Poland
- 2014: Doctor Honoris Causa of the University Ateneo de Manila, Philippines
- 2012: Doctor Honoris Causa of the University Bahçeşehir in Istanbul, Turkey
- 2011: Doctor Honoris Causa of the University Miguel de Cervantes, Santiago de Chile
- 2010: Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Korea, Seoul
- 2008: Doctor Honoris Causa of the Warmia and Mazury University in Olsztyn, Poland
- 2007: Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Opole, Poland
- 2006: Doctor Honoris Causa of Babeş-Bolyai-University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- 2012: Cardinal-Opilio-Rossi-Medal from the Consortium of Catholic Organisations in Vienna
- 2010: "Ben-Gurion-Medaille" of the Ben-Gurion-University Jerusalem

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- 2010: René-Cassin-Medaille for Human Rights, Consultative Council
Jewish Organisations
- 1995: Robert-Schuman-Medal of the EPP group
- 2007: Walter-Hallstein-Prize, Frankfurt am Main
- Member of the Board of Trustees, Friends of Europe

PUBLICATIONS (SELECTION)

- 1975: Adenauers Sicherheitspolitik 1955-1963. Ein Beitrag zum deutsch-amerikanischen Verhältnis. Hans-Gert Poettering; Doctoral thesis, Dusseldorf
- 2009: Im Dienste Europas. Reden aus den Jahren 2007 - 2009. Hans-Gert Poettering; Bonn
- 2014: Wir sind zu unserem Glück vereint. Mein europäischer Weg. Hans-Gert Poettering; Weimar