

About Professor Josef Hoechtl

Born in Austria, he attended University of Economics, Vienna (Department of Political economy) and University of Vienna (lectures in sociology, political philosophy, journalism, studies of English and French languages, small Russian) He went on to attain a Masters of Social and Economic Sciences as well as a doctorate in Economics from the University of Economics in Vienna.

He has many professional achievements. Beginning as a lecturer at the University of Economics in Vienna in 1972, he then went on to work at the Department of universities in the Ministry of Science and Research. He followed this tenure up with a position at the International department in the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. He was also appointed as Special Commissioner for bilateral scientific contacts from 2000-2002 and then Special Commissioner for bilateral and multilateral matters for the federal ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Austria in October 2002. Additionally he held the Vice-Chairman position at the Austrian Association for Economic and Social policy at the Kummer-Institute.

Dr. Hoechtl has been quite active in politics and has participated in government in various contexts over his career. As a member of the Austrian Parliament for 24 years he has held the following posts: Chairman of the Committee on Education and Cultural affairs; Deputy-Chairman of the Committee on Science; Member of the Committee on Financial and Fiscal Policy; Member of the Committee on Foreign Policy; Member of the Main Committee and Member of the Committee on the Board of control. He was appointed Delegate to the IPU (International Parliamentary Union), for the Christian-democratic faction from 1988 until 2000 and has held the Chairmanship of the Association of Christian Politicians in Austria and Vice-presidency of "The foundation for the Austrian resistance movement against National Socialism".