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WALTER SCHEEL

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice Chancellor  
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Born in Solingen on July 8, 1919, he graduated from high school in 1938 and was drafted for military service until 1945.

After the war he became a partner in two market-research firms and headed a number of business associations.

A member of the Free Democratic Party (FDP) since 1946, he has served as a legislator at every level of government. He was elected to the Dusseldorf City Council in 1948, the State Parliament of North Rhine Westphalia in 1950 and the Bundestag (Federal Parliament) in 1953.

In 1958 he became Vice President of the Liberal Parliamentary Group in the European Parliament and President of its Committee for Cooperation with the Developing Countries. From 1956 to 1957 he was a member of the Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community.

From 1961 to 1966, Mr. Scheel was Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation in the Coalition Government formed by the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union (CDU/CSU) and the FDP. After 1966, his party became the opposition.

In 1968 he was elected Federal Chairman of the FDP.

Following the September 1969 elections, the FDP joined a government coalition with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) in which Mr. Scheel became Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice Chancellor.

He is married and has two children.

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*fy German  
Embassy*

## **Les principales dates dans la vie de M. Scheel**

- 1919 Année de naissance
- 1930 Etudes secondaires
- 1938 Baccalauréat. Etudes bancaires
- 1939 Soldat
- 1942 Premier mariage
- 1945 Fin de la guerre. Nouvelle existence
- 1946 Adhésion au FDP
- 1947 Président local du FDP à Solingen
- 1948 Au Conseil municipal de Solingen
- 1953 Député au Landtag. Fondation d'entreprises
- 1955 Membre du Conseil de l'Europe
- 1956 Chute du gouvernement à Dusseldorf
- 1957 2<sup>e</sup> mandat parlementaire au Bundestag
- 1961 Ministre de l'aide au développement
- 1965 A nouveau ministre de l'aide au développement
- 1966 Chute du gouvernement Erhard. Grande coalition  
Décès de la première femme de M. Scheel  
Dans l'opposition
- 1967 Congrès de réforme du FDP à Honovre  
Lutte pour la présidence du parti  
Vice-président du Parlement fédéral
- 1968 Election au poste de président du FDP  
Nouveau programme pour le parti
- 1969 Election du Président Heinemann  
Second mariage  
Invitation à Moscou  
Elections législatives fédérales de 1969  
et formation du gouvernement  
Ministre des Affaires étrangères