

Monika Wulf-Mathies

Born on 17 March 1942, Wernigerode (Harz)

Married since 1968 to Dr. Carsten Wulf-Mathies

School education: 1961 Abitur (A-level) in Hamburg

Further education: 1961-1968 study of history, German and economics at the Universities of Hamburg and Freiburg

1968 promotion to Dr. phil. in Hamburg

Professional career:

1968-1971 Branch Assistant in the Federal Ministry of Economics

1971-1976 Federal Chancellery,
last function: head of department for social policy

Joining the ÖTV: September 1971

Full-time activities:

June 1976 elected to ÖTV managing executive committee
1980 re-election, September 1982: election chairperson of ÖTV
1984, 1988, 1992 re-election

Honorary activities:

- Since 1989 President of Public Services International (PSI)
- Member of the Executive Board of the Beiteiligungsgesellschaft für Gemeinwirtschaft AG (BGAG)
- Since 1978 member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Lufthansa AG.
- Since May 1988 Deputy Chairman of the Executive Board

Party membership: Since 1965 member of the Social Democratic Party

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COMMISSIONER WULF-MATHIES TO TAKE PART IN WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON IRELAND

European Commissioner Monika Wulf-Mathies will visit Washington May 24-26 to participate in the White House Conference on Trade and Investment in Ireland.

The aim of the conference is to consolidate the process of peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland by promoting new investment and business partnerships and employment in the province.

Organized by Business Council for International Understanding on the initiative of President Bill Clinton, the conference will be attended by business and Government leaders from Northern Ireland, the Irish Republic (whose border counties suffered economically as a result of terrorism), and by senior US executives interested new business opportunities in the region.

Commissioner Monika Wulf Mathies, who is responsible for the EU's regional policy, will address the White House Conference on Friday, May 26. Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) John Hume and James Nicholson, who represent different communities in Northern Ireland, will also attend the conference.

At 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 25, Commissioner Wulf-Mathies (possibly joined by MEPs John Hume and James Nicholson) will give a press conference in the press briefing room of the Sheraton Hotel, 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington DC. Members of the press are invited to attend.

While in Washington, her present schedule also includes meetings with Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown, Rep. Joseph Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Peter King (R-NY).

Like the United States, the European Commission has consistently supported moves towards peace in the province, most recently through the allocation of a \$400 million package to promote reconciliation between the communities as well as economic growth in marginalized areas. Since 1989, the EU has been contributing almost \$20 million a year to the International Fund for Ireland. As part of the EU's efforts to reduce economic and social disparities among its regions, Northern Ireland has received over \$1 billion from the EU's structural funds between 1989 and 1993.

Monika Wulf-Mathies
European Commissioner for Regional Policy

Before joining the European Commission in January 1995, Monika Wulf-Mathies served four consecutive terms (starting in 1982 and reelected in 1984, 1988, and 1992) as Chairperson of the German Transport Union ÖTV (Öffentlich Dienste, Transport und Verkehr) which she joined in 1971. A member of the German Social Democratic Party since 1965, she served in various departments in the Federal Chancellery from 1971 to 1976, and was also Head of Division in the Federal Ministry of Economics (1968-1971). She holds a number of other honorary positions including President of Public Service International, and Deputy Chair of the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Lufthansa. She received her doctorate from the University of Hamburg in 1968 and studied history, German and economics at the Universities of Freiburg and Hamburg (1961-1968).

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