

1/1/93

Henning Christophersen

Henning Christophersen, born 8th November 1939, in Copenhagen, active in politics since the mid-sixties, elected member of the Danish Parliament. In 1971 for the Liberal party ("Venstre"). During the seventies, gained increasing prominence in the parliament as his party's deputy leader and general policy spokesman. As such he dealt with all areas of legislation but he became particularly known and respected for his great insight and understanding of economic and financial matters. In 1978 he became party leader and the same year led his party into a coalition with the Social Democrats.

In the Government led by Prime Minister Anker Jørgensen he became foreign minister. The government was widely seen as a political experiment and when towards the end of 1979 he found it was unable to take the necessary decisions in the field of economic policy to redress the deteriorating situation, Henning Christophersen led his party out of Government and thereby brought it down. In the next three years he led a campaign from the opposition for a radically different economic policy and when the Social Democratic Government collapsed in 1982, he became deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance in the new Liberal-Conservative coalition. Within 24 months he managed to ensure a complete turn around of the Danish economic situation with a dramatic improvement in the economic situation.

In 1985 he became Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities and was made responsible for the Community's budget, financial control, personnel and administration. In this capacity he master-minded the complete overhaul of the Community finances to secure increased resources and improved control of Community spending.

1989-1992. Mr Christophersen has been Vice-President responsible for economic affairs and the coordination of the Structural funds.

Among his private interests are genealogy, history and languages such as old Greek. He is married to Jytte (born Nielsen) and has three children.

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CURRICULUM VITAE

1984
B10 C

Henning Christophersen, born 8 November 1939 in Copenhagen. Married to Jytte Christophersen. 3 children.

Graduated in economics from Copenhagen University, 1965.

Head of the economic division of the Danish Federation of Crafts and Smaller Industries, 1965-1970.

Economics reporter for the periodical NB 1970-1971 and for the weekly newspaper WEEKENDAVISEN 1971-1978.

Elected to the Folketing (parliament) 1971.

Member of the parliamentary finance committee 1972-1976, vice-chairman 1975.

Political spokesman of the Liberal MPs 1973-1978.

Chairman of the parliamentary foreign affairs committee 1979-1981.

Member of the Nordic Council 1981-1982.

National auditor 1976-1978.

Vice-chairman of the national organisation of the Liberal Party 1972.

Acting national chairman of the Liberal Party 1977 and chairman 1978..

Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Anker Jorgensen Cabinet III 1978-1979

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Chairman of the Liberal Party parliamentary group 1979-1982.

Minister for Finance and Deputy Prime Minister in the Poul Schlüter Cabinet 1982-1984.

Chairman of the ECO/FIN-Council during the Danish EEC presidency in the second half of 1982.

Author of books and articles on political and economic subjects.