

DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
PRESS AND INFORMATION

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Bio Book

WILLY DE CLERCQ

MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
RESPONSIBLE FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Mr. De Clercq, 57 years old, trained as a lawyer, was deeply involved in Belgian politics as a member of the Flemish Liberal Party for many years.

Mr. De Clercq was Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Foreign Trade in the Belgian government from 1981 to 1984, prior to becoming member of the Commission, which is the executive body of the European Community.

He has held a variety of other ministerial positions, including Minister of Finance (1974-77), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (1973-74) and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Budget (1966-68). Mr. De Clercq was a member of the European Parliament from 1979 to 1981. He was president of the Flemish Liberal Party from 1971 to 1973, and again from 1977 to 1981.

Mr. De Clercq has in recent years been deeply involved in international problems. In his capacity as Belgian Minister of Finance he has twice chaired the International Monetary Fund's Interim Committee and has gained an invaluable insight into the operation of the international monetary system.

Mr. De Clercq is married with three children and lives in Brussels, Belgium.

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