

European Community Information Service
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Biography

FRITZ HELLWIG

Vice-president of the Commission of the European Communities

Fritz Hellwig was born in Saarbrücken, Germany on August 3, 1912. He studied philosophy, political economics, history and geography in Marbourg, Vienna, and Berlin. He received his doctoral degree in philosophy in Berlin in 1933, and in 1936 a doctoral degree from the University of Heidelberg.

From 1933 to 1939, he was associated with the board of governors of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Saarbrücken. He also served as director of the documentary filing department for the economic section in the Saar district through 1939.

In 1936, he became a member of the faculty in Heidelberg. He taught at the high school in Saarbrücken from 1937 to 1938.

From 1939 to 1940, he was a member of the board of directors of the North-East Steel Group, and in 1940, he became director of the South-East Steel Group, a position which he held until 1943.

He was a prisoner during World War II. In 1947, after his return, he served as economic adviser in Dusseldorf and Duisberg.

From 1951 to 1959, he was the Managing Director of the German Institute for Industry.

He was a member of the directory committee of the Christian Democratic Union (C.D.U.) and a member of the Advisory Assembly of the Board of Europe from 1953 to 1956.

He served as a member of the Bundestag from 1953 to 1959. In 1956, he was elected President of the Commission of Economic Affairs of the Bundestag, continuing in this position until 1959. In 1959, he became a member of the European Parliament.

He was appointed to the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community on September 15, 1959.

On July 6, 1967, he was appointed Vice-president of the Commission of the European Communities with principal responsibility for nuclear research centers and general research and technology.

He is a member of the Rotary Club and the Industry Club in Dusseldorf. His hobbies include collecting old geographical maps and illustrated books, rowing, and mountaineering.

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