

Brazil

Fernando Henrique Cardoso President of Brazil

Fernando Henrique Cardoso was born on June 18, 1931, in Rio de Janeiro. In 1961, he received a doctorate in science from the University of Sao Paulo's faculty of philosophy, science and letters, where he later served as director. In 1962-63, he studied sociology at the University of Paris.

Mr. Cardoso's academic career began in 1964, when he served as professor of developmental sociology at the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. He held posts in sociology and political science at many universities, including the University of Paris-Nanterre, the University of Sao Paulo, the University of Cambridge, and the Institute for Higher Studies in Social Sciences, Paris. He was also a visiting professor at the University of California and Stanford University.

Mr. Cardoso has also been associated with several research institutes and associations, including serving as co-president of the International Foundation for Alternative Development in Nyon, Switzerland, and as president of the International Sociological Association in Amsterdam.

In 1983, he became a federal senator for the state of Sao Paulo and served as Government Leader in Congress from 1985 to 1986.

Mr. Cardoso was elected President of Brazil in October 1994 and took office on Jan. 1, 1995.

Mr. Cardoso is married to Ruth Corrêa Leite Cardoso.