Hans-Dietrich Genscher was born in 1927 and was a student of law and economics. He fled from the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany in 1952.

Mr. Genscher became associated with the Free Democratic Party (FDP), one of three parties forming the F.R.G.'s present coalition government. Appointed minister of the interior in 1969, Mr. Genscher actively combatted terrorism and took a lead role in the F.R.G. response when Israelis were held hostage at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Mr. Genscher has been foreign minister and deputy chancellor since 1974. Over the years, the foreign minister has demonstrated an interest and influence in East-West affairs and has played a leading role in German unification.

Mr. Genscher is married and has one child.

Foreign Minister and Deputy Chancellor Hans-Dietrich Genscher

