



Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze

Mr. Shevardnadze was born on January 25, 1928. He holds degrees from the Higher Party School of the Georgian Central Committee and from the Kutaisi Pedagogical Institute.

Mr. Shevardnadze joined the Communist Party in 1948, and in 1957 he became the First Secretary of the Georgian Republic's Young Communist League (Komsomol). He became a full member of the Central Committee in Georgia in 1958, and three years later was elected to the bureau of the All-Union Komsomol. In 1964, after holding various party posts in Georgia, he was appointed First Deputy Minister of the Georgian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

After leading a successful campaign to expose corruption among Georgian party officials, Mr. Shevardnadze became the Georgian party's First Secretary in 1972. In 1978 he was elected a candidate member of the Politburo, and was elected a full member in 1985. In July 1985, he ended his duties as First Secretary in Georgia in order to accept his current post as Foreign Minister. In June 1989, he was unanimously confirmed in his ministerial position by the new Supreme Soviet.

Mr. Shevardnadze and his wife, Nanuli, have a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren.