

Romano Prodi

Prime Minister of Italy

Romano Prodi was born in 1939. After graduating from the Catholic University of Milan in 1961, he worked as a researcher at the London School of Economics.

Mr. Prodi has been a professor of economics and industrial policy at University of Bologna, a visiting professor at Harvard University in the United States, and chairman of the scientific committee of an economic research institute in Bologna, and a trustee of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. An expert on economics and industrial policy, Mr. Prodi has extensively researched the Italian industrial economy, and he has written many scientific papers, particularly on European industrial policy, Italian public enterprise, energy, and the functioning of economic systems.

From November 1978 to March 1979, Mr. Prodi was Minister of Industry, and during the period 1982-89 and 1993-94, he was president of Italy's state-owned industrial conglomerate, IRI.

Mr. Prodi led the Olive Tree coalition to victory in the April 21, 1996, general election and saw his government sworn in on May 18.

Mr. Prodi is married and has two sons.