

## **Helmut Kohl**

### **Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany**

Mr. Kohl was born on April 3, 1930 in Ludwigshafen. In 1946, Mr. Kohl joined the Christian Democratic Union. He pursued university studies in history, law and political science from 1950 to 1958 and earned a PhD.

Mr. Kohl became a member of the Rhineland-Palatinate Land Parliament in 1960 and, in 1963, was elected chairman of the party.

In 1969, Mr. Kohl was elected Minister-President of the Rhineland-Palatinate and became federal chairman of the Christian Democratic Union in 1973.

Mr. Kohl was elected Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany on October 1, 1982 and his government was confirmed in office in the Bundestag election the following year. His government was re-elected in 1987. Three years later, in March 1990, the German Democratic Republic elected the Alliance for Germany party supported by Mr. Kohl.

The Monetary, Economic and Social Union, proposed by Mr. Kohl, came into effect July 1, 1990. Fifteen days later, Mr. Kohl obtained consent in Moscow to full sovereignty for Germany. On December 2, 1990, the coalition government led by Mr. Kohl won the first all-German election to the Bundestag. Mr. Kohl has been re-elected federal Chancellor four times in a row, most recently in 1994.

Mr. Kohl is married and has two children.