

## JOSCHKA FISCHER



### **German Secretary of State and Vice Chancellor (1998-2005)**

Joschka Fischer is one of Germany's best-known and most influential politicians. As foreign minister and vice chancellor of the first red-green federal government (1998–2005), he played a central role in German and international politics. With his sharp mind, rhetorical talent, and keen sense of global challenges, he gained recognition across party lines.

His career is as unconventional as it is impressive: after dropping out of school and abandoning an apprenticeship as a photographer, Fischer became involved in the student movement of 1968 in Frankfurt am Main. He attended lectures by Adorno, Habermas, and Negt as a guest student and developed a deep understanding of socio-political issues at an early age. In the 1980s, he found his political home with the Green Party and became one of the leading representatives of the party's realpolitik wing. In 1983, he became a member of the first Green Party parliamentary group in the Bundestag. Two years later, he was inaugurated as the first Green minister in the cabinet of Hesse's Minister President Holger Börner – causing a nationwide sensation with his sneakers and casual jacket. As foreign minister, Fischer took on major global challenges between 1998 and 2005. He moved confidently on the international stage, earning political prestige far beyond Germany's borders. He addressed sensitive issues such as the Kosovo war, the Middle East conflict, and German-American relations openly and with skillful tactics. In Germany, he remained at the top of the popularity rankings for German politicians for several years. He played a decisive role in the re-election of the red-green federal government in 2002. After the 2005 federal elections, he retired from active politics.

Since then, Joschka Fischer has been in demand as a consultant and thought leader. In 2006, he took up a visiting professorship at the elite US university Princeton, where he taught international crisis diplomacy. In 2007, he founded the consulting firm Joschka Fischer and Company, which advises companies and governments on political strategy and sustainability issues. He is also a co-founder of the European Council on Foreign Relations and continues to be involved in geopolitical debates. Since 2008, he has been a consultant for The Albright Group LLC.

With his sharp analytical mind, his many years of political experience, and his straightforward manner, Joschka Fischer continues to inspire as a speaker and advisor on the international stage. His name stands for clear words, strategic thinking, and the ability to shape political processes in a sustainable way.

#### **Topics (Selection):**

- Politics
- Europe
- Brexit
- Globalisation
- Crisis Management
- Environmental Policy