

# Gert Weisskirchen

Professor of Higher Education  
Member of Parliament (Deutscher Bundestag)

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Born May 16, 1944 in Heidelberg, married to Renate Weisskirchen since 1969, one daughter.

## Education

- 1966 - 1969: A-levels: Studies at the Universities for Higher Education in Heidelberg and Karlsruhe.  
1969: Heidelberg University in Education Sciences, Political Sciences and Economic and Social History.

## Professional experience

- 1969 - 1972: Teacher at Secondary School in Eppingen  
1972 - 1975: Assistant at Heidelberg School of Higher Education  
1976 - 1980: Professor of Social Education at Wiesbaden School of Higher Education (since then granted leave)  
1990 - 1993: Lecturer at Humboldt University in Berlin  
since 1995: Honorary professor of Applied Cultural Sciences at Potsdam School of Higher Education (Section for cultural and social change)

## Parliamentary experience

- since 1976: Member of Parliament for the Rhine-Neckar-constituency  
1976 - 1983: Deputy, then Spokesman of the SPD Parliamentary Group within the Committee on Sciences and Education  
1987 - 1990: Head of the SPD parliamentary working group on arms' conversion and of the „Education 2000“ Inquiry  
1990 - 1994: Member of the Inquiry into the History of SED dictatorship in former East Germany  
since 1990: Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and Deputy-member of the Committee on European Relations of the German Bundestag  
1993 - 1998: Spokesman of the SPD Parliamentary working group on the United Nations  
since 1994: Member of OSCE Parliamentary Assembly  
since 1997: Spokesman of the group of socialist and social-democrat members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly  
since 1998: President of the Commission on Human Rights, democracy and humanitarian questions within the OSCE P.A.; Member of Board of the SPD Parliamentary Group

1998 - 1999: Member of the Bundestag Committee on Culture and Media;  
Spokesman of the SPD Parliamentary Group within this  
committee  
since 1999: Spokesman of the SPD parliamentary working group on foreign  
affairs  
2002 - 2005: Vice-President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly  
since 2005: Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE  
on Combating Antisemitism

### **Political engagement**

1969 - 1972: Member of Board of the „Young Socialist“-group in Baden-  
Württemberg  
1971 - 1972: Head of the Baden-Württemberg Young Socialists  
1973 - 1997: Member of Board of the Baden-Württemberg SPD  
1973 - 1991: Head of the SPD Rhine-Neckar-constituency  
since 1991: Member of the SPD National Commission on Control  
since 1994: Member of the SPD Commission on Fundamental Values

### **Social engagement**

since 1983: Numerous contacts to dissidents and human rights activists  
from Czechoslovakia, East-Germany, Poland, Hungary and the  
Soviet Union  
1991 - 1994: Member of the Brandenburg commission on Higher Education  
since 1992: Member of the Presidency of the Helsinki Citizen's Assembly  
(HCA), an umbrella organization for peace and human rights  
movements, founded by Vaclav Havel