



Prof. Dr. Christian Schwarz-Schilling

Christian Schwarz-Schilling was the High Representative and EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina between February 2006 and June 2007.

Christian Schwarz-Schilling graduated in 1956 from the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich, Germany, with a doctoral degree in East Asian Studies. After completing his apprenticeship in a bank in Hamburg, he joined the German Christian Democratic Party (CDU) in 1960. From 1966 to 1976, he was a member of the executive committee of the Hessian branch of the CDU, and was its Secretary General from 1967 to 1980.

Schwarz-Schilling was elected to the German Bundestag in 1976, where he served until 2002. He held various official positions during this time, including Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee (from 1994 to 2002), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid (from 1994 to 1998) and Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid (from 1998 to 2002).

Schwarz-Schilling was appointed Minister for Postal Services and Telecommunications in 1982. He was responsible for the liberalization of the German telecommunications market, the privatization of the federal Post Office, and the introduction of a nationwide cable network providing radio and television services as well as the development of digital technologies and the European GSM-Standard of the digital mobile phones in close cooperation with the French administration.

Because of the controversy about a more active role of Germany in prohibiting Genocide in the Balkans he resigned as Minister at December 1992. From 1995 to 2004, he worked as an international mediator in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this capacity, he traveled the country working with community leaders to foster dialogue and rebuild trust. Drawing on the lessons learned from this work of ten years international mediator of Bosnia, Schwarz-Schilling and his team developed a methodology of integrative mediation which promotes mediation at the local level in the western Balkans. This is now also used in Kosovo, South-Serbia and Macedonia in December 2005, Schwarz-Schilling was appointed by the Peace Implementation Council (PIC) of the Dayton-Peace-Treaty as High Representative and European Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina by the EU.

Since September 2007, Christian Schwarz-Schilling has been a professor at the Sarajevo School of Science and Technology in Sarajevo.