

## Heinz Fischer

Federal President, Republic of Austria



The Austrian Federal President, Dr. Heinz Fischer was born at Graz (Province of Styria) on October 9, 1938. He is married to Margit Fischer and has 2 children, Philip and Lisa.

After attending classical grammar school in Vienna, he studied law and political science at the University of Vienna from 1956 onwards, obtaining his Doctor of Law degree in 1961. Subsequently he underwent practical training at court.

From 1963 to 1975 Dr. Fischer was secretary, and from 1975 to 1983 executive chairman of the Social Democratic Group in the Austrian Parliament and from 1971 to 2004 Member of the National Council, which activity was interrupted when he served as Federal Minister of Science and Research from 1983 to 1987.

In November 1990 Dr. Fischer was elected President of the National Council, to which function he was re-elected three times, holding the office for twelve consecutive years until December 2002, when he was elected Second President of the National Council. He retired from this office on June 16, 2004, having been elected President of the Republic of Austria on April 25, 2004. Dr. Fischer is now on his second term of the presidency. He was re-elected on April 25, 2010 and runs his second term until 2016.

Between 1992 and 2004 Dr. Fischer was Deputy Chairman of the Party of European Socialists (PES).