

## NATO Secretary General



### Anders Fogh Rasmussen

Anders Fogh Rasmussen took office as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's 12<sup>th</sup> Secretary General on 1 August 2009.

Anders Fogh Rasmussen was born in Ginnerup, Jutland, on 26 January 1953. After passing the baccalaureate at Viborg Cathedral School in 1972, he studied economics at the University of Aarhus, graduating (MSc Econ) in 1978. The same year he became member of the Danish Parliament representing the Liberal Party.

Mr. Rasmussen held numerous positions in government and opposition throughout his political career. From 1987 to 1992 he was Minister for Taxation and from 1990 to 1992 also Minister for Economic Affairs in the Conservative-Liberal coalition Government. As Minister for Economic Affairs and member of the EU's ECOFIN-council 1990-92, Mr. Rasmussen was the Danish negotiator of and signatory to the Maastricht Treaty which eventually led to the introduction of the single currency, the euro.

From 1992 to 1998 he was spokesman for the Liberal Party and from 1993 to 1998 in addition vice-chairman of the Parliament's Economic and Political Affairs Committee. In 1998 he became chairman of the Liberal Party's national organisation and vice-chairman of the Parliament's Foreign Policy Board.

After the parliamentary elections in 2001 he formed his first government, a coalition consisting of the Liberal Party and the Conservative People's Party. His government was re-elected in 2005 and 2007 respectively, and he held the position as Prime Minister until he was elected as future NATO Secretary General at the Strasbourg-Kehl Summit in April 2009.

During the Danish Presidency of the European Union from July to December 2002 Mr. Rasmussen played a key role in the process leading to conclusion of the accession negotiations with 10 candidates for EU-membership at the meeting of the European Council in Copenhagen in December 2002.

Mr. Rasmussen is married to Anne-Mette Rasmussen. They have three children. In his spare time, he is a passionate runner, and he also enjoys cycling and kayaking.

#### **Political career:**

1974-1976	National Chairman of the Liberal Youth of Denmark
1978-2009	Member of the Folketing – the Parliament
1981-1986	Vice-chairman of the Folketing's Housing Committee
1984-1987	Member of the Management Committee of the Parliamentary Liberal Party
1985-1998	Vice-chairman of the Liberal Party's national organisation
1987-1992	Minister for Taxation
1990-1992	Minister for Economic Affairs
1992-2001	Member of the Management Committee of the Parliamentary Liberal Party
1992-1998	Spokesman for the Liberal Party
1993-1998	Vice-chairman of the Folketing's Economic and Political Affairs Committee
1998-2009	Chairman of the Liberal Party's national organisation
1998-2001	Chairman of the Parliamentary Liberal Party
1998-2001	Vice-chairman of the Folketing's Foreign Policy Board
2001-2009	Prime Minister of Denmark
2009 -	Secretary General of NATO