

**FRANS ANDRIESEN**  
Vice-President of the Commission



Born in Utrecht on April 2, 1929. Married, with four children.  
Obtained doctorate in law at the State University of Utrecht in 1951.

From 1954 to 1972, held several positions at the *Katholiek Instituut voor Volkshuisvesting* (Catholic Institute for Public Housing), at the end as director.

Member of the Utrecht States Provincial from 1958 to 1967, and Member of the Second Chamber of the States-General (specializing at first in matters relating to public housing) from 1967 to 1977.

President of the KVP group of the Second Chamber from 1971 to 1977, and Minister of Finance in 1977 to 1979.

Member of the First Chamber of the States-General (Senate) (1980).

Knight of the Netherlands Order of the Lion and officer of the Order of Orange-Nassau.

Appointed Member of the Commission of the European Communities for the period January 6, 1981, to January 5, 1983. Reappointed as Member of the Commission for the period January 6, 1983, to January 5, 1985. Appointed Vice-President of the Commission for the period January 6, 1985, to January 5, 1989.

#### Common Market Reports



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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

FRANS ANDRIESSEN, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF  
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES RESPONSIBLE  
FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND TRADE POLICY

Frans Andriessen, a former Minister of Finance of the Netherlands, joined the E.C. Commission, the executive body of the European Community, in 1981.

Born in 1929 in the Netherlands, Vice-President Andriessen holds a Doctorate of Law from the State University of Utrecht. He joined the Catholic Housing Institute in 1954 and remained with the organization until 1972, most recently as its Director.

A member of the Catholic People's Party (which has now become part of the Christian Democratic Party of the Netherlands), Andriessen served as a member of the Utrecht Provincial States, one of the Netherlands' eleven provincial legislatures, from 1958 to 1967. In 1967, he was elected to the Lower House of the States General, the national parliament of the Netherlands. Vice-President Andriessen was a member of the Lower House for ten years. From 1971 to 1977 he was also Chairman of the Catholic People's Party in the Lower House.

In 1977, Andriessen entered the Netherlands Government as Minister of Finance under Prime Minister Andreas van Agt and served until 1979. In 1980, he returned to the Netherlands parliament as a member of the Upper House of the States General. From 1981 to January 1985, Vice-President Andriessen was the European Community Commissioner responsible for enforcement of the Community's antitrust policies and for the Commission's relations with the European Parliament. He became Vice-President responsible for agriculture and fisheries in January 1985, then for external relations and trade policy as well as for cooperation with other European countries in January 1989.

MARCH 1990

Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN

Frans Andriessen, born in Utrecht (Holland), April 2 1929, qualified as a lawyer at the local University. For nearly twenty years he served with the Catholic Housing Institute, latterly as Director. Before he was thirty, he was invited to enter Dutch public life and served for ten years as a Member of the Provincial States (Regional Assembly) of Utrecht before moving on to the National Parliament. Within four years, he became the parliamentary leader of the Christian Democratic Party in the Lower House. In 1977 he became Minister of Finance of the Netherlands. In 1980, after resigning from this post (over a question of principle), he became a Member of the Upper House of the States-General.

In 1981 he became a Member of the Commission of the European Communities. For his first four year term, he was made responsible for Competition Policy and Relations with the European Parliament. For his second four year term, he became Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities and took over responsibility for Agriculture. The last four years have seen far-reaching adjustments to the Common Agricultural Policy as a result of the major policy debate which he initiated in 1985 with the publication of the Green Paper. He has been reappointed to the Commission for a further third term.

Frans Andriessen is married and has four children, who are now adult and have left home to make their own lives. His wife Catherine has used the frequent absences of her husband in the last few years to pursue her studies and acquire an Honours degree in Archeology and the Fine Arts.