

## Short biography of Wilfried Martens

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- Born on 19 April 1936 in Sleidinge (B), deceased 9 October 2013 in Lokreren (B)
- Nationality: Belgian
- PhD in Law, Licentiate in Notary Science, Bachelor's degree in Thomist Philosophy
- Lawyer at the Ghent Court of Appeal
- Adviser to Prime Ministers Pierre Harmel and Paul Vanden Boeynants (1965–1966)
- President of the 'CVP Jongeren' (the CVP youth organisation) (1967–1971)
- Special adviser in the office of minister Leo Tindemans (1968)
- Chairman of the Christelijke Volkspartij (Christian People's Party) (1972–1979)
- Co-founder of the European People's Party (1976)
- Member of the Chamber of Representatives (1974–1991)
- Prime Minister (1979–1981; 1981–1992)
- President of the European People's Party (1990–2013)
- President of the European Union of Christian Democrats (1993–1996)
- Member of the European Parliament (1994–2004)
- Chairman of the Group of the European People's Party (1994–1999)
- Minister of State (1992-2013)