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## Angela Merkel



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- Merkel became the first female Chancellor of Germany in 2005 and is serving her fourth term.
- In November 2018, Merkel stepped down as leader of the Christian Democratic Union and announced she wouldn't seek another term as chancellor in 2021.

- Merkel remains the de facto leader of Europe, leading the region's largest economy after steering Germany through financial crisis and back to growth.
- Her leadership is marked by her steely reserve, from standing up to Donald Trump to allowing more than a million Syrian refugees into Germany.
- For now, she leads a coalition government unpopular with voters, facing continuing storms from Brexit and growing anti-immigrant sentiment in Europe.
- The big question that the public is now asking is who and what will come after Merkel's time in office comes to an end.

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#### Personal Stats

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**Age**    70

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**Residence**    Berlin, Germany

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**Citizenship** Germany

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**Marital Status** Married

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**Education** Doctorate, Leipzig University; Master of Science, Leipzig University

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**Did you know**

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Merkel has a PhD in Physical Chemistry which she received from the Academy of Sciences in Berlin-Adlershof for her work on quantum chemistry. →

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**In Their Own Words**

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“If Europe fails on the question of refugees, then it won't be the Europe we wished for.”

**Angela Merkel**

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