

Dr. Christoph Blocher, former Federal Councillor



Personal data

<i>Name</i>	Blocher Christoph, Dr. iur.
<i>Born</i>	11 October 1940
<i>Native place</i>	Meilen/canton Zurich, Zurich, and Schattenhalb/canton Bern Honorary citizen of Lü in the Val Müstair Grew up in Laufen am Rheinfall
<i>Place of residence</i>	Herrliberg, canton Zurich
<i>Denomination</i>	Protestant
<i>Marital status</i>	Married, 3 daughters, 1 son, 7 grandchildren
<i>Military service</i>	Colonel, Commander of the Aerial Defence Regiment 41 (retired)
<i>Address</i>	Wängirain 53, CH-8704 Herrliberg ch.blocher@robinvest.ch

Education

<i>1947 – 1953</i>	Primary school in Uhwiesen/canton Zurich
<i>1953 – 1956</i>	Secondary school in Uhwiesen/canton Zurich
<i>1956 – 1958</i>	2-year agricultural apprenticeship in Ossingen/canton Zurich
<i>1958</i>	Final apprenticeship examination at the Strickhof Agricultural Centre of Competency, Zurich
<i>1958/1959</i>	Agricultural winter college, Winterthur-Wülflingen, and 3 agricultural placements (Buch a.I., Pampigny/VD and Knonau)
<i>1961 – 1963</i>	Preparation for the university-entrance examinations, awarded the Swiss <i>Matura Type C</i> (1964: passed the <i>Matura Type Latin</i> as a prerequisite for his legal studies)
<i>1964 – 1969</i>	Legal studies in Zurich, Montpellier and Paris leading to the licentiate
<i>1971</i>	Doctorate (Dr. iur. utr.); dissertation: "The function of the agriculture zone and its compatibility with the Swiss guarantee of ownership"

Professional career

<i>1969</i>	Joined the legal department of EMS-CHEMIE AG (formerly Emser Werke AG)
<i>from 1972</i>	Chairman of the Board of Directors and Managing Director of EMS-CHEMIE AG, Domat/Ems; member of several Boards of Directors of the Emser Group
<i>1983</i>	Majority shareholder of EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG
<i>from 1984 - 2003</i>	Chairman and Managing Director of EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG. Member of the Boards of Directors of EMS Group companies

Political activities

<i>as a student</i>	Co-founder of the conservative student association "Studentenring" at the University of Zurich; President of the law students' representative body and member of the greater students' council
<i>after university</i>	1974 –1978 Member of the Meilen Municipal Council
	1975 –1980 Member of the Zurich Cantonal Parliament
	1977 –2003 President of the Zurich Cantonal SVP
	1979 –2003 Member of the Swiss National Council
	1986 –2003 President of AUNS (Campaign for Swiss Independence and Neutrality)
	10.12.2003 Elected to the Swiss Federal Council
	2004 -2007 Minister (Federal Justice and Police Department)
	12.12.2007 Voted off the Federal Council
	1.3.2008 Vice-President of the SVP Switzerland