

Abstract

Between the 4th Nov 1975 and the 28th Oct 1999 Dr. Neisser was – with a short interruption – either Member of the Parliament or of the Federal Government. From 1975 to 1986 he was Member of the National Council of the People 's Party, which was in opposition at that time. He was famous for his brilliant speeches. This was confirmed by virtually all mass media.

From January 1987 until April 1989, he was Federal Minister of Federalism and Administrative Reform. In his function as member of the Coordination Committee of the Coalition Parties, his close contact with the Parliament remained.

Moreover Dr. Neisser was Chair Person of the Parliamentary Group of the People's Party from November 1990 until November 1994. During this period, a rash of sustainable events took place; for example, the first separation of a Parliamentary Group. Filibuster speeches of Members of Parliament were prolonging the plenary sessions into the night and had to be avoided. Furthermore, a substantial reform of suffrage took place, also a reform of the Parliamentary rules of procedure, which both economised Parliamentary sessions and strengthened minority rights. The working conditions for Members of Parliament were improved strongly. Finally, those years were influenced by the preparation of the Austrian EU accession.

Dr. Neisser was Second President of the National Council from November 1994 and October 1999. In this function, he was also member of the Parliamentary Steering Committee, the so-called President's Conference. From 1996 until 1998 three partly fundamental amendments of the law of Parliamentary rules of procedure took place, with which the planning of the Plenary Sessions was improved, as well as the control- and minority rights were enlarged. According to mass media, Dr. Neisser highly respected the function of the Presidents of the National Council and executed his high position objectively and very competent.