

JOAQUÍN ALMUNIA

Personal Data

- Born in Bilbao (Spain), on 17 June of 1948.
- Married. Two Children.

Academic Background

- Graduated in Law and Economics at the University of Deusto (Bilbao).
- Follow-up studies at L'École Pratique des Hautes Études de Paris.
- "Senior managers in Government" program at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.
- Associate Lecturer at the University of Alcalá de Henares (Madrid) on Employment and Social Security Law.

Professional activities

- 1976-1979, Chief economist of the UGT, a Spanish trade union.
- 1972-1975, Economist at the Council Bureau of the Spanish Chambers of Commerce in Brussels.

Political positions

- Since 26 April 2004, Member of the European Commission, responsible for Economic and Monetary Affairs
- 2000, Socialist candidate for Prime Minister.
- 1997-2000, Leader of the PSOE.
- 1994-1997, Spokesperson of the Socialist Parliamentary Group.
- 1986- 1991, Minister of Public Administration.
- 1982-1986, Minister of Employment and Social Security.
- 1979-2004, Member of the Spanish Parliament.
- Member of the Federal Committee of the PSOE.

Other activities

- Director of the research program on "Equality and redistribution of income" at the Fundación Argentaria (1991-1994).
- Founder (2002) and Director of the progressive think tank "Laboratorio de Alternativas".
- Author of several books and numerous press articles.