

Quotes about Prof Helmut Schlesinger

“In the eyes of many observers, Helmut Schlesinger represents the “stability policy conscience” of the Bundesbank; a man who meticulously scrutinises monetary statistics in order to detect signs of inflationary risk.”

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 31 July 1991

“Being an experienced mountaineer, Schlesinger does not lack stability or stamina; (...) when he took office as top cat at the Bundesbank, with all of the attendant publicity, he brought with him the kind of detailed knowledge that only a renowned monetary expert can possess. (...) In addition to his powers of endurance, Schlesinger is characterised by the great loyalty he shows to the institution in which he has grown up. He is the true boy scout of German central banking.”

David Marsh, Die Bundesbank, 1992

“During your term as President the European monetary system suffered three serious exchange rate crises. That the system could ultimately be saved is very much thanks to services rendered by yourself and Professor Tietmeyer”. (...) Every decision we made was closely monitored across the world. Occasionally they would garner praise but more often they met with criticism, of a kind which invariably singled out the President himself as a scapegoat. He bore such attacks with admirable grace and always remained calm”.

Welcome address by Dr Günter Storch,
Member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bundesbank
1 October 1993

“Schlesinger’s all-round expertise coupled with his scientific discursiveness have always remained beyond any doubt; in this respect he has set the standard for his future successors as well as for bank employees in general.”

Zeitschrift für das gesamte Kreditwesen, 4 October 1993

“He was described as being like a “falcon” when strategic decisions had to be made in the area of stability policy. However, it would have been more fitting to describe Schlesinger as the “stability policy pelican” as pelicans happen to enjoy great respect owing to their reliability, their willingness to make personal sacrifices and their nurturing skills.”

Börsen-Zeitung, 8 June 1994