Prof Dr Melanie Sully, B.A., M.A., PhD.
Political Scientist from Britain living in Austria

Melanie Sully was born in Bristol in South West England in 1949 coming from a Huguenot family of craftsmen who had settled in the region from France in the eighteenth century. She took a B.A in politics at Nottingham University in the East Midlands, specialising in German politics before going on to Leicester University for a Master of Arts Degree in European Studies. After moving to the West Midlands Melanie took a Doctorate at Keele University and lectured in Staffordshire in Political Science and Contemporary European History.

She first visited Vienna in 1970 as a tourist interested in music and afterwards decided to research Austrian politics writing for the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House and for learned journals such as Parliamentary Affairs and the Political Quarterly. Books on Austrian political parties and elections followed as well as contemporary history. Melanie was also active in journalism as a radio correspondent for the Voice of America and penning articles for British and Austrian news media.

In 1988 Melanie became a visiting professor at the University of Innsbruck in political science and stayed there until 1991 before taking up a position at Vienna University. This was followed by employment in the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs at the Diplomatic Academy where she stayed for almost twenty years.

In 2011/12 Melanie became director of the Vienna-based Institute for Go-Governance and led several projects in the Black Sea Region supported by the International Department of the City of Vienna and the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Melanie visited most of the former states of the Soviet Union and started to learn Russian.

In addition Melanie became a consultant for the OSCE on parliaments and democracy, women in politics and public consultations. She gave evidence on parliamentary standards to a committee of the House of Commons in London. She was also a consultant for the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on anti-corruption and women in political life.

More recently Melanie has lectured throughout Austria on the topic of the UK leaving the European Union and has participated in discussion events on television and radio in Austria, Switzerland, Germany, the USA and Australia. She is a regular contributor writing articles for Austrian newspapers on a wide range of issues concerned with democracy and parliaments as well as writing academic publications.

In the past Melanie has tried her hand at snow and ice climbing in the Cairngorms in Scotland and rock climbing in North Wales. Melanie's hobbies include photography, animals as well as travel including trips to Antarctica, flying over the North Pole, visiting countries on the Equator and many in others in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and South America. She has also returned to playing the piano and music theory and composition, the original motivation for the first visit to Vienna.

www.melanie-sully.at E Mail melanie.sully@speed.at Tel +43 69910055286