

G.J. (Fred) de Graaf has been president of the Senate since June 2011 and a member of the Peoples party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) in the Senate since 2003. He chaired the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation from 2007 till 2011.

Personal details

- born in Roosendaal, on the 28th of February 1950
- married to Harma van Buizen
- children; 2 daughters
- faith; Dutch Reformed
- place of residence; Loenen, the Netherlands

Education

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|-------------|---|
| 1962 - 1968 | Grammar school |
| 1968 - 1975 | Master Degree in Dutch Law, majoring in public law, University of Groningen |

Career

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|--------------------|---|
| 1975 - 1977 | Assistant in the Office of the Permanent Secretary General, Ministry of Home Affairs |
| 1977 - 1981 | Assistant in the Directorate-General for the Interior Administrative Organisation, Ministry of Home Affairs |
| 1981 - 1989 | Mayor of Leersum |
| 1989 - 1999 | Mayor of Vught |
| 1995 (01-10/31-12) | Acting Mayor of Helvoirt |
| 1996 (16-09/31-12) | Acting Mayor of Udenhout |
| 1999 - 2011 | Mayor of Apeldoorn |

Political Career

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|-------------|---|
| 1978 - 1981 | Chairman of the VVD-party in the Municipal Council of Voorschoten |
| 2003 -- | Member of the Senate |
| 2005 - 2011 | Deputy chairman of the VVD-party in the Senate |
| 2011 -- | President of the Senate |

Honours and Decorations

- | | |
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| 1997 | Knight in the order of Oranje-Nassau |
| 2011 | Officer in the order of Oranje Nassau |
| Foreign decorations | |
| 2000 | Commander in the order of the Sacred Treasure of Japan |