

- Lombardy, northern Italy

 1974: Professor of Law at
 University of Pavia
- 1984-94: Works for *Corriere della*Sera writes several books
- Sera, writes several books
 1994-95: Elected to parliament.
- Switches allegiance from socialists to centre-right *Forza Italia*. Appointed *Minister of Economy and Finance* in first Berlusconi cabinet
- 2001-04: Finance minister when
 Berlusconi returns to power. Resigns in dispute over economy
 2005-06: Reappointed in new
- Berlusconi cabinet cuts top tax rate

 2008: Serves in next Berlusconi
- government. Publishes *The Fear and the Hope*, which slams globalisation

 2009: Introduces 5% tax deal on Italians' hidden assets. Amnesty
- raises □5 billion
 2010: Pushes □25bn austerity package through parliament

Picture: AFP/Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS