

A photograph of Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor, waving her right hand. She has short, light brown hair and is wearing a dark jacket. The background is a blurred mix of grey and yellow.

Today in History

November 22, 2005

▲ **Angela Merkel formally became Germany's first female Chancellor. She is now the longest-serving incumbent head of government in the European Union**

1975: King Juan Carlos was sworn in as Spain's first monarch for 44 years

1989: Lebanon's newly elected president, Rene Muawad, was assassinated in west Beirut as his motorcade passed through the city

2001: Pope John Paul II sent the first official papal e-mail from a laptop in his office in the Vatican

2010: A stampede during the Khmer Water Festival in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, killed over 450 people