

Key faces in Merkel's new cabinet

German Chancellor Angela Merkel is embarking on a fourth term after securing a coalition deal between her conservative Christian Democrat Union/Christian Social Union and the centre-left Social Democrats

Olaf Scholz, 59
Finance Minister, Vice-chancellor

Lawyer served as Merkel's labour minister during 2008 financial crisis before being elected mayor of Hamburg



Heiko Maas, 51
Foreign Minister

Former justice minister, introduced laws to limit hate speech on social media. Outspoken critic of far-right



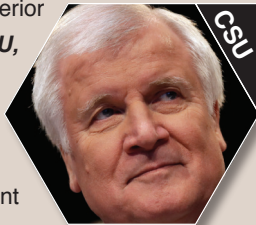
Scholz, who stresses need for consensus within EU on eurozone reform, expected to stick to austere policies of CDU predecessor **Wolfgang Schäuble**



Germany is facing calls to take more active approach on issues ranging from eurozone reforms, threat of U.S. trade sanctions, and more assertive Russia

Horst Seehofer, 68
Minister of Interior

Leader of **CSU**, traditionally to right of CDU, is one of Germany's most prominent politicians



Ursula von der Leyen, 59
Defence

Only minister to keep same portfolio from previous government



Seehofer, one of Merkel's strongest critics during 2015 migrant influx, promises to speed up asylum procedures and increase deportations of rejected applicants

As Germany's role in foreign military operations grows, Von der Leyen wants more funding for armed forces, which have been dogged by equipment shortages