

Prof. Merith Niehuss (born in 1954) studied History, English, and Sociology in Regensburg and Munich. In 1982 she received her doctoral degree from the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (Munich) in the field of social history.

Following her postgraduate studies in the field of parliamentary and electoral history, Prof. Niehuss worked as an assistant to Prof. Gerhard A. Ritter, and from 1990 to 1993 she was a project collaborator for the Volkswagen Foundation. Prof. Niehuss was awarded her postdoctoral teaching certification in 1993 for her work "Family, Woman, and Society: a Structuralist Survey of the History of the Family in West Germany." She continued to focus on Social History and Gender Studies following her postdoctoral certification.

In 1994 Prof. Niehuss was awarded a Heisenberg Grant and acted as chair of 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century German & European History at the Universität der Bundeswehr München. She was appointed to this professorship in 1996. In 1999 Prof. Niehuss began her four-year term as vice-president of the University, during which time she dealt with such issues as the implementation of the Federal Minister's framework for the structure and organization of the Universität der Bundeswehr München. This involved, among other things, restructuring the university committees and introducing a procedure for evaluating instructors.

Prof. Niehuss has been the president of the Universität der Bundeswehr München since 1 November 2005. Since that time one of her main focuses has been on developing the University's reputation as a "beacon of research".