

Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany

(Andrew Marr)

Angela Merkel the girl who had grown up in divided post-war Germany a young scientist who had experienced the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of communism and the fledging politician who had worked towards reunification was now the most powerful women in the world.

We never had a queen in our German monarchy throughout the centuries, so it was really a major revolution when all of a sudden she became a chancellor. Being a woman in the world of politics will change everything because the rest of the politicians could not continue to play their games as they had before.

Germany's new Chancellor was offering a different style of leadership, and Germans had to adjust to a very different hand of authority. She's someone who's very much taken aback. She's not pompous at all. She's very quiet and I think that's what people like about her. She has a high standing in Germany because she's one of us.