



AVRASYA
İNCELEMELERİ
MERKEZİ
CENTER FOR
EURASIAN STUDIES

MISSING MERKEL ALREADY: GERMAN CDU LOSES CHANCELLOR'S VOTER BASE

- 21.09.2021

Politico (21 September 2021)

BY EMILY SCHULTHEIS AND CORNELIUS HIRSCH

Trailing in the polls less than a week before Germany's general election, the governing Christian Democrats are learning the hard way just how much they depended on Angela Merkel.

Survey data shows that during her 16 years in office, Merkel's pragmatic, centrist approach and unflappable manner helped her center-right CDU party build a coalition of voters consisting not only of traditional conservatives, but also of people who just liked the chancellor. That was especially true of women, older voters, and some centrists, according to the data.

Merkel's biggest asset is probably that people who wouldn't otherwise support the CDU are totally comfortable supporting her, said Marcel Dirks, a political scientist and nonresident fellow at the University of Kiel. She is in many ways the perfect centrist, he added. She really very rarely offends anyone, and it's so difficult to dislike her personally.

[Click for more](#)

Kaynak/Source: