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# France Presidential Election 2007

A break with the past

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## OUTCOME

**Nicolas Sarkozy (UMP):** 53.06% or 18.9 million votes, elected President of the French Republic

**Ségolène Royal (PS):** 46.94% or 16.8 million votes

**Voter turn out:** 84% or 37.254.242 out of 44.472.363 registered voters.



With a record participation level of 84% of registered voters casting their ballots in both rounds, the 2007 Presidential election marks a clear reconciliation between the French people and politics, bringing election turn-out back in line with those of 1974 (87%) and 1981 (86%). This heightened participation highlights both the interest and expectations of the French people in an election seen by many as a “make or break” for France’s future.

Nicolas Sarkozy’s victory marks a real rupture with the past and a profound renewal of the French right, both in terms of generation and ideology. This campaign has clearly shown a shift to the right at all levels of the political landscape, with the economy and market liberalisation measures taking the centre stage of the debate, alongside security and immigration issues. A new generation of leaders with no memory of World War II - more markedly to the right - has emerged, while extremist parties (on both the left and the right) have seen their scores fall to historical lows, from 40% in 2002 to below 20% in 2007.

The first round of the elections resulted in a resounding vote for the mainstream candidates with Nicolas Sarkozy, the Conservative (UMP) candidate winning 31.2% (11.5 million voters), followed by Ségolène Royal, from Socialist Party (PS), with 25.9%. She was the first woman to make it to the second round of a Presidential election.

Sarkozy’s share of the vote in the first round, 11 percentage points above that of outgoing President Jacques Chirac in 2002, was the highest for a candidate of the right since 1974.

The first round also saw the emergence of a third man, François Bayrou, and his UDF Union French Democracy, who won 18% of the vote on an anti-system and anti-right/left divide platform. His emergence and determination to create a third political party complicated the second round of voting, as both candidates moved to the centre to win over Mr Bayrou’s 6.8 million first round supporters.

## BALLOT ANALYSIS

In giving Nicolas Sarkozy a strong majority over his socialist contender, French voters have made a clear choice. His large victory provides him with the support needed to rapidly push forth the reforms he promised, while it further plunges the left into a deep identity crisis, initiated in 2002.

Nicolas Sarkozy has led to victory an “ideologically sure footed” conservative party, clearly and openly campaigning on a right-wing platform. This is a remarkable break from the past, especially from the Chirac years, when the conservatives, seemingly scared of their own shadows, brought the country to a reform standstill, leaving it ill-equipped to adapt to a globalised economy.

Sunday’s results clearly give Nicolas Sarkozy the mandate he asked for to carry out his reforms. His 53% of the vote provides him the political legitimacy to modernise France, while it should protect him, for a certain period anyway, from too strong a challenge from the street. As many commentators argue, “*France has made a clear choice*” and the new President enjoys a “*real legitimacy to act*” that “*no corporatism can oppose*”.

Things are more difficult for the French left. Segolène Royal publicly conceded defeat remarkably quickly (a few minutes after 8:00 pm), immediately positioning herself as the rightful leader for the Socialists and the left for the June general elections. Armed with the close to 17 million voters who backed her, she clearly intends to lead the left in the legislative elections and play a centre role in the Socialist party’s up-coming *aggiornamento*. The question is whether other socialist leaders will let her do so.

Segolène Royal had barely finished her concession speech when Dominique Strauss-Kahn, former Economics Minister and leader of the Social Democratic/reformist wing of the party, and Laurent Fabius, former Prime Minister, leader of the “No” campaign for the European constitution referendum and head of the leftist faction of the Socialist party, both violently attacked her and the way she had conducted her campaign.

The French left was clearly disavowed on Sunday, losing the Presidential elections for the third time in a row. On the eve of the first round, all left-wing votes barely culminated at 36%, a far cry from the 50% needed to win the second round. The emergence of François Bayrou, campaigning on a platform close to the Conservatives on economic issues and close to the Socialists on social and institutional issues, clearly showed the yearning for an important part of the French left-wing electorate to find a modern and reform minded path, clearly not something the Socialist party was able to offer or project. Indeed, the Socialist party is in dire need to redefine and re-invent itself, finding itself caught between a rock and a hard place, unable to offer a

clear alternative internally while risking being challenged on their left by the extreme left and on their right by François Bayrou, and his new Democratic Movement.

Finally, the June 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> general elections should comfort Nicolas Sarkozy, providing him with the parliamentary majority he needs to carry out his programme. The first opinion polls conducted following Sarkozy's election indicate between 35-37% support in favour of Sarkozy's UMP, between 30 and 33% for the left, and between 12-15% for Bayrou's new centrist Democratic Movement, while the Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front share of the electorate looks set to decrease further at 8%.

Furthermore, with a polling system for the general elections amplifying results to provide stable majorities, the UMP could well gain an absolute majority, providing President Sarkozy with the required parliamentary support.

## NICOLAS SARKOZY AS PRESIDENT

It has been Nicolas Sarkozy's ambition to become French President ever since he started his career. Despised and admired in equal measure, the former protégé of Jacques Chirac has now seen his dream come true and he will take his place at the Élysée Palace between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of May. Sarkozy stated that he would takeover on the 16<sup>th</sup> May.

All political commentators agree that Sarkozy is no "ideologue": his allegiance is to success and he has demonstrated brutal pragmatism to achieve this end. He was a highly combative interior minister and UMP leader, who has sharply divided opinion in France - not least by adopting a tough stance on immigration. In his campaign he successfully built on this image and appealed to working-class voters by concentrating his campaign on populist issues, such as immigration, national identity and crime, a tactic which successfully marginalized the more extreme Jean-Marie Le Pen.

A political outsider, Sarkozy has cast himself as a modernizer and expressed a willingness to "make a dramatic break" with the past, in particular with France's traditional ruling elite. Unlike most of the French ruling class, Mr Sarkozy did not go to the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA), but trained as a lawyer, so he has been able to successfully champion this concept and tap into the disaffection and loss of trust with "politics as usual" in France.

Sarkozy's election brings to power a younger generation representing a significant change from that of his predecessor. His teams will be young, some of them only in their 30s, and there will be more women making up what is expected to be a compact team limited to 15 ministers. Sarkozy wants a reduced cabinet to increase effectiveness and he plans to evaluate the work of his ministers each year.

There is a clear desire for social and economic "change" in France and Sarkozy has, in part, been elected to tackle the necessary reforms. The French are convinced that reform is needed. However, they are not agreed on how reform should be brought about and the significant opposition which has prevented radical renewal of the "French Model" for the last twenty years remains. There are still too many people who are too well protected by the state to want change. So the question to be answered is how Sarkozy will implement the changes he acknowledges France needs. With no legacy of a French political machine capable of taking on the big problems, Mr Sarkozy may find it just as hard as his predecessor Mr Chirac did, to push through changes in France. Experience has shown that any serious attempts to liberalise France's labour market are likely to provoke massive protests in the streets.

The danger for Mr Sarkozy is that opposition to his reform plans could become intertwined with perceptions of Sarkozy himself. Francois Bayrou, the third candidate

from the UDF party who was eliminated in the first round of voting, described Sarkozy as a man "with a taste for intimidation and threats," raising concerns about the divisive effect Sarkozy's presidency could have on the country. His actions as interior minister and abrasive personality have engendered a powerful "Anyone but Sarkozy" feeling among a sizeable part of the electorate. This is especially evident in the troubled suburbs, where the former interior minister made enemies by calling young criminals "scum" and became identified with an unpopular police force, and could exacerbate opposition for any unpopular reform plans.

Sarkozy will need all of his hard work, cunning and ability as a skilled orator and media-savvy political operator if he is to introduce the reforms France needs.

### **Programme for Government**

Hailed by the *Economist* as "France's chance", the man to bring about Thatcherite economic reforms, only Sarkozy, out of the main candidates, has campaigned to reform the barriers to job creation and put France back to work. Although he recognizes the need for urgent reform in France he has been wary of sounding too radical or too specific in his commitments to reform, for fear of alienating an electorate, which is hostile to globalization and views the economic "liberalism" of America and Britain with contempt.

That said, he is determined to make the French work harder and pay less tax to restore the value of work and lift France's sluggish economic growth rate. In an interview with *Le Monde*, Mr Sarkozy labelled this his "priority of priorities". While this reflects a more free market approach to the economy Mr Sarkozy will, like Mr Chirac, continue to favour a strong industrial policy. He is expected to interfere less but will likely continue the tradition of government intervention by protecting national champions. As finance minister in 2004 he called for "economic patriotism" rescuing Alstom, France's world-leading power and high-speed rail conglomerate, from bankruptcy with taxpayers' money.

In line with EU better regulation principles, Sarkozy promises that there will be fewer laws, but that they will be applied.

### Economic Reform

Sarkozy has recognised that France must undertake radical reforms if it is to raise growth and cut unemployment, which has not been under 8% for 25 years. According to his diagnosis of France's economic ills, the French do not work enough: young people enter the workforce late; experienced people retire early; the standard working week has been reduced to 35 hours.

To get France back on its feet, he plans to circumvent the 35-hour week by offering employees new tax incentives to earn more money through working longer hours. This he believes can be achieved by rewarding overtime with an increase of 25%

more than a normal hour and exonerating all overtime from social charges and income tax. A believer in minimizing taxation he plans to boost consumer spending by leaving more money in employees' pockets through a reduction in the overall tax burden by four percentage points over 10 years, which will bring France into line with the European average.

A second major cause of unemployment, in Sarkozy's view, is that the burden of the French welfare state falls predominantly on employers, thereby resulting in less jobs. Mr Sarkozy plans to shift the cost of the welfare state – especially health care and unemployment pay – onto VAT. The idea has detractors on the right and may be in conflict with EU rules.

It is also planned that these tax cuts could be partly financed by reducing state spending. The cost of salaries and pensions for civil servants accounts for 45 per cent of the government's budget. To reduce this burden he proposes that only one out of every two civil servants who retires should be replaced.

Sarkozy has indicated that he will continue dialogue with the unions but has planned a series of measures which are designed to curb their powers and prevent them from undermining his reform plans. He intends to impose on employers and unions an "institutionalised" social dialogue, consisting of a period of six months negotiations. Four "summits" bringing employers and unions together will be organized, on purchasing power, work contracts, salary equality for men and women, and reform of social democracy. He also plans to limit the effectiveness of strikes by bringing in a law to have a secret vote after 8 days strike and a law guaranteeing a minimum level of service of during strikes.

### Europe

Sarkozy's vision is for France to reclaim its place in a more effective Europe. He is not overtly keen on the old Franco-German alliance - but upset new EU members by saying those with lower taxes than old Europe should not receive EU subsidies. He has a pragmatic approach to the constitution proposing a simplified treaty, limited to institutional questions, to be ratified by the French Parliament. He recently criticized the European Central Bank and would like to reinforce the powers of the Eurogroup to put pressure on the ECB and have more influence over monetary and exchange-rate policies.

Sarkozy is openly hostile to Turkey joining the EU, and sees Europe as a bulwark to globalisation, not to let in globalisation as a Trojan horse. He has been critical of the European Commission for promoting competition at the expense of Europe's industrial base and wants to rehabilitate the "community preference", calling on the EU to adopt more protectionist policies to defend against competition from emerging economies. Mr Sarkozy's Gaullist trait of putting "France first" may put him in conflict with Brussels and other national capitals, as he plans to put in place an industrial policy which will concentrate efforts on strategic sectors to combat delocalization.

### International Relations - the US and Russia

He is more of an Atlanticist than most French politicians, although he was prudent to downplay his open admiration of America during the election campaign. He will try to repair France's broken relationship with the US caused by tension over Iraq. Interestingly, Nicolas Sarkozy made an important reference to the United States in his first speech following his election, stating that France would always stand by the US when the US would need her, while insisting upon the importance for friends to clearly and simply state their differences. *"I want to appeal to our US friends, to let them know they can count on our friendship, forged in the tragedies of history that we have always confronted together. I want to tell them that France will always stand by them when they'll need her. But I also want to tell them that friendship means that friends can also think differently, and that the US has a duty not to stand in the way of the fight against climate change, but should, to the contrary, take the lead on this issue, because what is at stake is the fate of all mankind".*

Russia's relationship with France is also set to change, to a probably less accommodating stance. During his 12 years in office, Mr Chirac proved a reliable ally to Presidents Boris Yeltsin and Vladimir Putin, often supporting them in international disputes. Although not expected to publicly criticize Putin he will be firmer on human rights issues. It is also expected that, as a supporter of common EU defense and energy policies, his influence will have an impact which will directly affect the EU's relations with Russia.

### Environment

Sarkozy has announced a conference on the environment to bring together NGOs, industrial groups and social partners. He has indicated that a new, overarching ministry will bring together sustainable development, water, energy and transport issues into one portfolio. A possible new "green tax" which would be applied to a great number of polluting energies, along the lines of a revisited "carbon tax", has been touted and the new President has publicly endorsed the creation of a World Environmental Organisation.

### Immigration

This has been a major theme during the campaign. It looks certain that a new ministry for "immigration and national identity" will be created, a proposition which has caused real debate. As interior minister Sarkozy imposed strict measures on illegal immigrants, a policy he looks set to reinforce by introducing annual limits on the number of immigrants and stricter measures on regrouping families and the regularization of immigrants without papers. Further more, while continuing the fight to reduce illegal immigration, a Sarkozy government is likely to pursue selective immigration favouring arrival of qualified workers

## BIOGRAPHY OF NICOLAS SARKOZY



Nicolas Sarközy de Nagy Bocsá was born on January 28th, 1955 to a French mother and a Hungarian father.

Unlike most of France's ruling class, Sarkozy was an average student, and did not study at the elite Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) before heading into ministerial office. After qualifying as a lawyer, Nicolas Sarkozy entered into practice for a short time at the Paris firm Arnaud Claude, specialising in property.

He has had virtually no career outside politics having become a city councillor at the age of 22. At 19, he joined the RPR - le Rassemblement pour la République - created by his early political mentors Charles Pasqua and Jacques Chirac. His talent, especially as a speaker, was quickly noticed. In 1981, Chirac launched his first presidential bid and Sarkozy campaigned for him at the head of a group of young supporters. In 1983, aged just 28, he was elected France's youngest mayor of the affluent Parisian suburb of Neuilly sur Seine. Six years later he became a Member of Parliament for the Hauts-de-Seine department.

Nicolas Sarkozy: Key dates
1993 - 1995: Budget Minister
2002 - 2004: Minister for the Interior
2004: Minister of Finance
2005 - 2007: Minister of State for the Interior

He served as mayor of the affluent Paris suburb of Neuilly from 1983 to 2002, then became interior minister. He also had a brief spell as finance minister in 2004. Throughout the 1980s Sarkozy cultivated a network of confidantes in politics and business. Among his allies were the business leaders Martin Bouyges and Bernard Arnault. He also aligned himself strongly with the Chiracs, becoming popular with wife Bernadette and winning the affections of daughter Claude. When Chirac stood for election in 1988, Sarkozy again campaigned.

In 1993 the young politician took on his first government brief, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur making him Budget Minister. He was one of the government's youngest and most dynamic ministers - and one of its most media-friendly.

Although he was initially a protégé of President Chirac and an active supporter, the two fell out dramatically when Mr Sarkozy backed Balladur, Chirac's rival, for the presidency in 1995. It was a bad choice and a slight that has never been forgotten.

He paid dearly for his treachery. Excluded from the President's inner circle, Sarkozy was now forgotten. A potential return came in the 1999 European elections when he stood for the RPR. It turned out to be a failure, he came only third.

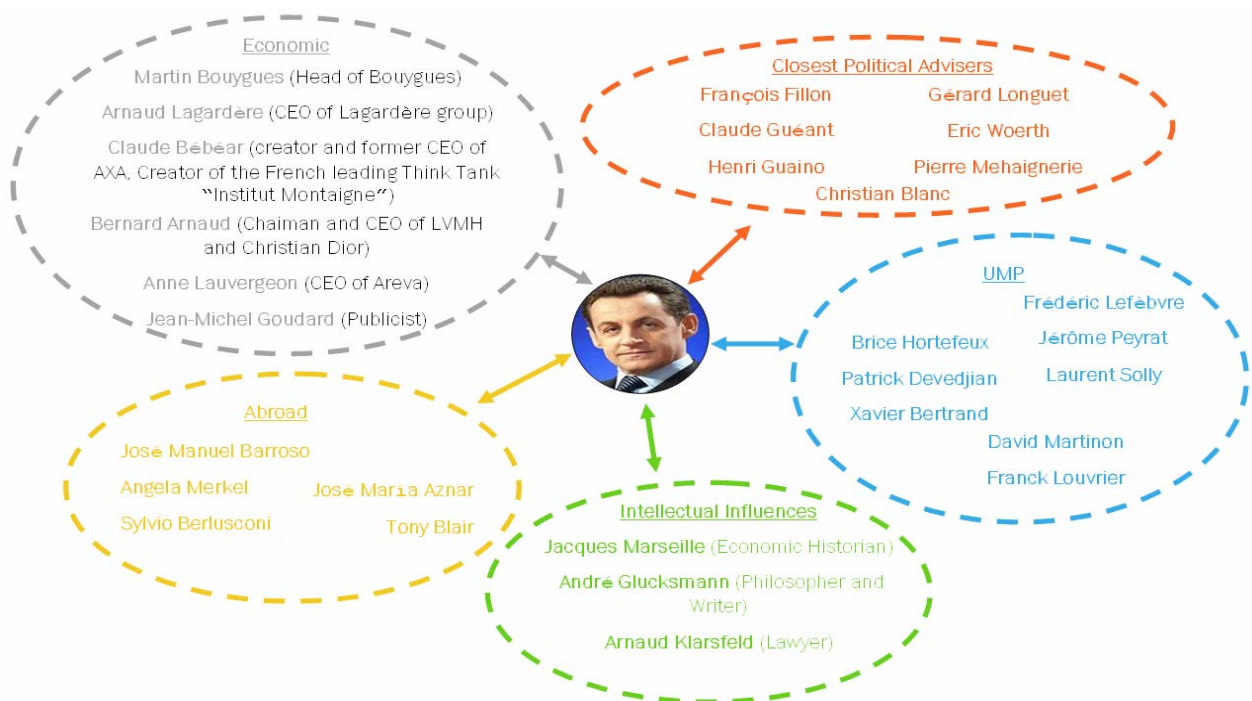
Sarkozy withdrew briefly from political life, working as a lawyer and spending his spare time writing and learning English. But his ambition remained strong and in 2001 he released his political manifesto *Libre* before starting again to get his career back on track.

Sarkozy worked his way back into Chirac's team helping him win re-election in 2002, making possible his return. He was made interior minister, the second most important position in government, by the Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin. He set security as his priority and soon became the government's star media performer, as a regular guest on television, with his straight talking and tough attitude.

Following the cabinet reshuffle of 31 March 2004, Sarkozy was moved to the position of Finance Minister. Tensions continued to build between Sarkozy and Chirac and within the UMP party, as Sarkozy became head of the party after the resignation of Alain Juppé. In accordance with an agreement with Chirac, he resigned his position as minister. Sarkozy's intentions to seek the presidency in 2007 divided the UMP between sarkozystes, such as Sarkozy's "first lieutenant", Brice Hortefeux, and Chirac loyalists, such as Jean-Louis Debré. Despite these divisions on 2 June 2005 Sarkozy was reappointed Minister of the Interior in the government of Dominique de Villepin without resigning from the UMP leadership, thus paving the way for his ascent to the Presidency.

## Sarkozy's network

Looks set to be the fourth member of US-looking European modernizers. Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, José Manuel Barroso, president of the European Commission, and Tony Blair, British prime minister have privately discussed a “strategic partnership” with Mr Sarkozy to promote economic reform and build a more outward looking Europe.



## SARKOZY'S POSSIBLE GOVERNMENT

Sarkozy's first government will probably be the first illustration of his pledge to do things differently, to reflect French society and to show openness to other political / ideological currents. His government is expected to be compact, with only about 15 Ministers. Seven to eight of these ministerial positions should be taken up by women. Secretaries of State / Junior Ministers are not expected to be appointed before the results of the June general elections.

### Prime Minister

The Prime Minister is named by the President, reflecting the majority returned to the National Assembly.



**François Fillon**, Mr Sarkozy's right-hand man in charge of his legislative programme. He is widely seen as being Sarkozy's most likely choice as Prime Minister even if he has contenders.

Born in 1954 in Sarthe, François Fillon studied law and political science. A minister several times during the governments of Balladur and Juppé, he resigned as deputy for Sarthe in 2002 to become Minister for Social Affairs and then Minister for Education under Jean-Pierre Raffarin. He carried out a series of contested reforms (retirement, education). A potential candidate for prime minister he quit Raffarin's government at the same time as Raffarin, who he had fallen out with. On departing he was very critical of Chirac's government "One will remember nothing of Chirac, except for my reforms". Defeated in the regional elections in March 2004, where he ran in the region Pays-de-la-Loire, he became a senator for Sarthe in 2005.

<b>François Fillon: Key dates</b>
<b>1981 - 2002</b> : RPR Deputy for Sarthe
<b>1993 - 1995</b> : Minister for Higher Education
<b>1995 - 1997</b> : Minister for Technology & Communication
<b>2002 - 2004</b> : Minister for Social Affairs
<b>2004 - 2005</b> : Minister for Education
<b>Since Nov. 2004</b> : Political adviser to UMP
<b>Since 2005</b> : Senator for Sarthe

Role in the UMP Ex-séguiniste who became a supporter of Balladur and then Chirac, he is now close to Nicolas Sarkozy. He became his political adviser in November 2004, but was not close to the minister of the interior. He has however supported Sarkozy without reserve.

Ambitions Will be rewarded with a position in government following his firm support for Sarkozy.



**Jean-Louis Borloo**, *In the running to be Prime Minister due to his track record and popularity*

Born in April 7th, 1951 in Paris, he was a successful French lawyer in the 1980s and later became president of the Valenciennes Football Club. In 1989, he was elected mayor of Valenciennes, and then toward politics. From 1989 to 1992 he was a Member of the European Parliament and since April 1993, he has been a Member of Parliament of the 21<sup>st</sup> Circonscription. Jean-Louis Borloo is a member of the Law Commission and also the president of the Study group “Future of the Banking System”. From 2002 to 2004, he was the Minister of Urban Development and Renovation within the government of Jean-Pierre Raffarin. He is currently the Minister of Employment, Social Cohesion and Housing in France, as well as a member of the Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) and from 2005, the co-president of the Radical Party, alongside André Rossinot. He recently introduced a five-year plan of social cohesion, which is centred on three axes: equal opportunity, housing and employment.

<b>Jean-Louis Borloo: Key dates</b>
<b>1989 - 1992</b> : Member of the European Parliament
<b>2002 - 2004</b> : Minister Delegate for Urban Development and Renovation
<b>Since 2004</b> : Minister for Employment, Social Cohesion and Housing

Ambition Jean-Louis Borloo is one of the most appreciated French politicians. Following a recent TV campaign to align with Nicolas Sarkozy he has a chance to become the next Prime Minister. According to the political newsletter “Le Bleu”, Mr Borloo said “the question is to know if Sarkozy will appoint me to Matignon now or within two years”.



**Xavier Bertrand**, *The outsider for the position*

Born March 21, 1965 in Châlons-sur-Marne, Marne. On June 16, 2002 he was elected deputy for the UMP Party (2002-2007). On March 31, 2004, he was chosen Secretary of State for the health insurance (junior minister for health) in the third government of Jean-Pierre Raffarin and on June 2, 2005 he rose to the senior position of Minister of Health in the first government of Dominique de Villepin.

<b>Xavier Bertrand: Key dates</b>
<b>2004 - 2005</b> : Junior Minister for Health
<b>2005-Present</b> : Minister for Health

Role in the UMP Announced his support for Sarkozy’s presidential election bid on 29th November 2006 and was nominated spokesperson for the campaign on 15 January 2007. He quit his government post on 26 March 2007 to dedicate himself fully to the campaign. If not appointed Prime Minister it is likely he will be made Minister of Social Affairs.

## Other key personalities

### General Secretary of the Elysée

The General Secretary is a key post, despite the lack of public visibility it brings, as the General Secretary is closest to the President and advises him on a daily basis.



**Claude Guéant**, *the frontrunner to become the General Secretary of the Elysée*

Born in April 1947 in Vimy (Pas-de-Calais), Claude Guéant is a former Student of the famous École Nationale d'Administration (ENA), (Promotion Thomas More, 1969-71). After a brilliant career of "Prefect" and as the Deputy-Head of Cabinet of the Ministry of Interior under Mr Charles Pasqua, Claude Guéant became from 1994 to 1998 the Director General of the "Police Nationale". Respected by his peers, he's considered by Nicolas Sarkozy as the "best one". He is to Nicolas Sarkozy what Alain Juppé was to Jacques Chirac. In 2002, when Sarkozy was appointed Minister of the Interior, Claude Guéant became Head of the Cabinet. From April to December 2004, he followed Sarkozy to the Ministry of Economy, Finances and Industry retaining his role as Head of Cabinet.

Role in the UMP He's Nicolas Sarkozy's Director of Campaign and is totally devoted to his cause.

Ambition Claude Guéant said many times that he absolutely doesn't have the ambition to become the future Prime Minister. On the other hand, he has indicated that he would appreciate the role of Secretary General of the Elysée.

### Minister of the Interior

This is one of the most important governmental cabinet positions as the Ministry of the Interior is a critical ministry for the affairs of the country and the organization of elections.

It is widely rumoured that Brice Hortefeux, Nicolas Sarkozy's longtime friend and "right lieutenant" could be appointed Minister of the Interior. However, some have also anticipated that Sarkozy may prefer to entrust the party leadership of the UMP to him. Another possible candidate is Xavier Bertrand, spokesman for Sarkozy's Presidential campaign, as he looks assured to be rewarded with a Ministerial promotion.



**Brice Hortefeux, potential Minister of the Interior**

Born in May 11<sup>th</sup> 1958 in Neuilly-sur-Seine, Brice Hortefeux graduated from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). He's member of the UMP and the current Minister-Delegate for Local Government at the Ministry of the Interior. He was formerly Member of the European Parliament for the Region "Centre and sits on the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade.

Role in the UMP Since 2002, Brice Hortefeux has been a member of the UMP political bureau and is considered Nicolas Sarkozy's first "lieutenant". The two have been extremely close since they met as young members of the RPR in 1976. Has stated his desire to be part of the future government and is tipped to become the next Minister of the Interior.

*The following is an overview of the candidates that are rumoured to be in the running for the ministerial positions:*

**Interior**



**Francois Baroin**

- Current Minister of the Interior
- A long-time ally of Jacques Chirac



**Brice Hortefeux**

- (see biography above)



**Xavier Bertrand**

- (see biography above)

**Pierre Albertini**

- UDF Mayor of Rouen and MP of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circonscription of Seine-Maritime
- Member of the Financial Commission
- His appointment would send a strong signal of the independence of justice in Sarkozy's government



**Rachida Dati**

- UMP member and spokesperson for Sarkozy
- In 2002 she became Sarkozy's adviser on immigration



**Patrick Devedjian**

- MP of the 13<sup>th</sup> Circonscription of Hauts-de-Seine
- UMP Mayor of Antony (Hauts-de-Seine)
- Proximity to Sarkozy may rule him out of this position



**Philippe Houillon**

- MP of the 1<sup>st</sup> Circonscription of Val d'Oise
- President of the Law Commission



**Justice**

## Economy



**Jean-Louis Borloo**

- (see biography above)



**Anne Lauvergeon**

- Chairman of Areva
- 8th most powerful woman in the world (according to Forbes)
- Onetime political adviser to former French President Mitterrand
- Her appointment would be considered a sign of opening



**Pierre Méhaignerie**

- UMP Member and MP of the 5th Circonscription of Ile-et-Vilaine
- Formerly an ally of Jacques Chirac
- An authority on financial matters, has been President of the Finance Committee of the Assembly since 2002



**Xavier Bertrand**

- (see biography above)



**Gérard Larcher**

- Formerly Minister for Employment, Work and Training of young people
- Former Vice-President of the Senate

## Employment

It is anticipated that Michèle Alliot-Marie, currently the Minister for Defence, will become Minister for Foreign Affairs. However, Alain Juppé, former prime minister, is also in line for the post, if he is not made President of the National Assembly.

## Foreign Affairs



**Michele Alliot-Marie**

- Current Minister of Defence since 2002
- First woman to lead a major French political party – RPR 1999



**Alain Lamassoure**

- Member of UMP
- Member of European Parliament since 1999
- Former Budget Minister and Minister for European Affairs



**Alain Juppé**

- UMP mayor of Bordeaux
- Former Prime Minister from 1995-1997



**Michel Barnier**

- Former French Minister for Foreign affairs, and Environment
- Former European Commissioner for Regional Policy in the Prodi Commission



**Gérard Longuet**

- Senator for Meuse
- Member of UMP and political adviser to Sarkozy
- Forced to resign as Minister for Telecommunications in 1994

## Defence

## Enterprise-Trade



### Christine Lagarde

- Current Minister of Trade – highly regarded in France and Internationally
- Former Chairman of Baker McHenzie
- Shares similar views with Sarkozy on globalisation



### Christian Blanc

- UDF MP of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circonscription of Yvelines
- Former President of Merrill Lynch France



### Eric Besson

- MP of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circonscription of Drôme
- Former Secretary General for the Economy with the PS



### Alain Juppé

- UMP mayor of Bordeaux
- Former Prime Minister from 1995-1997



### Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet

- MP of the 4th Circonscription of Essonne
- A rising star of the UMP party
- Tipped for the job due to her expertise in ecology and position as General Secretary for Ecology within the UMP



### Antoine Rufenacht

- UMP Mayor of Le Havre
- President of the local city community of Le Havre
- Remains close to Jacques Chirac

## Environment, Sustainable development, Transport and Energy

## Health



### Roselyne Bachelot

- Member of the European Parliament for the West of France
- Former Minister of Ecology and Sustainable Development



### Christine Boutin

- MP of the 10th Circonscription of Yvelines
- Member of UMP



### Valérie Pécresse

- MP of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circonscription of Yvelines
- Regional Advisor of Ile-de-France
- Former Chirac supporter who has successfully integrated with Sarkozy

## Education, Culture



**Xavier Darcos**

- UMP Mayor of Perigueux
- Member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences



**Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres**

- Current Minister of Culture
- MP of the 1st Circonscription of indre-et-Loire



**Michel Thiolliere**

- Senator of Loire (Rhône-Alpes)
- Vice-President of the Commission of Cultural Affairs



**Bernard Laporte**

- Coach of the French Rugby team
- Close friend of Sarkozy



**Laurent Wauquiez**

- (see biography above)

## Youth, Sport

## Public Authorities



**Jerome Chartier**

- MP of the 4th Circonscription of Val d'Oise
- Member of the Financial Commission



**Pierre Albertini**

- MP of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circonscription of Seine-Maritime
- Member of the Financial Commission



**Dominique Bussereau**

- Current Minister of Agriculture
- MP of the 4th Circonscription of Charente-Maritime



**Rachida Dati**

- UMP member and spokesperson for Sarkozy
- In 2002 she became Sarkozy's adviser on immigration



**Roger Karoutchi**

- Senator of Hauts-de-Seine
- Member of the Financial and the Budget Commission

## Overseas Territories