

The **HCEfh** is an independent advisory body working under the Prime Minister. It was established by decree of the President of the French Republic on January 3rd, 2013. The **HCEfh** promotes public debate about gender equality, enables close consultation with civil society, and makes recommendations for public policies to further foster gender equality.

The High Council for Gender Equality's (HCEfh) objectives are:

- to critically screen public policy on gender equality through assessments and recommendations;
- to allow closer interaction among the different actors in the field of gender equality by offering a new framework for exchange and thoughts;
- to spread resources and tools designed by the various stakeholders, as well as key-concepts of gender equality.

Danielle Bousquet was appointed President of the HCEfh by the Prime Minister in January 2013. Former Member of the French National Assembly for the Côtes-d'Armor department (1997-2012), she has also been vice-president of the National Assembly (2009-2010) and vice-president of the National Assembly's women's rights and gender equality delegation (2002-2012). Danielle Bousquet specifically worked on the questions of prostitution (president of the National Assembly committee in charge of this issue, 2011), gender-based violence (co-writer of the law combating violence against women, 2010) or the right to contraception and abortion (rapporteur of the law expanding the right to abortion, 2001 and of the law authorizing free distribution of the morning-after pill, 2000).



Structure

The **HCEfn**'s organization reflects its interdisciplinary approach. It is made up of 5 commissions, which meet once a month



Gender-based violence

Presidents: **Elisabeth Moiron-Braud**, secretary-general of the MIPROF (interministerial committee for the protection of women against violence and the fight against human trafficking), and **Ernestine Ronai**, national coordinator of the MIPROF, in charge of the protection of women against violence



Gender stereotypes and roles

President: **Isabelle Germain**, journalist and founder of the news website "Les Nouvelles News"



International and European affairs

President: **Maxime Forest**, associate professor and researcher associated to the PRESAGE program (Sciences Po)



Parity in political, administrative, economic and social fields

President: **Réjane Sénac**, CNRS-CEVIPOF researcher and member of the steering committee of the PRESAGE program (Sciences Po)



Health, sexual and reproductive rights

President: **Françoise Laurant**, member of the national committee of the Ligue de l'enseignement and former president of the Planning familial (2000-2009)

High-level expertise

The **HCEfh** is composed of 73 members of diverse backgrounds and activities, reflecting the broad diversity of opinions and methods of action underpinning our democracy:

- ▶ representatives of associations promoting gender equality
- ▶ representatives elected at the national and local level
- ▶ qualified members chosen for their experience and competence in the field of women's rights
- ▶ experts and researchers whose works focus on gender equality
- ▶ public servants
- ▶ ex officio members: presidents of the women's rights and gender equality delegations of the National Assembly, the Senate and the Economic, Social and Environmental Council; representatives of the High Council for Family, the Higher Council for Professional Equality, the interministerial committee for the protection of women against violence and the fight against human trafficking (MIPROF); and senior civil servants in charge of gender equality.

Mission

The **HCEfh** :

- ▶ Contributes to **the assessment of public policies**
- ▶ **Evaluates gender impact assessment studies** carried out by the government for any bill carrying high stakes in terms of gender equality
- ▶ Presents recommendations, **advice and reform proposals to the Prime Minister**

- ▶ **Collects and spreads French, European and international analyses and studies on gender equality.**

Activities

Both the Prime Minister and the minister for Women's Rights can request studies from the **HCEfh**. Since 2013, the former minister for Women's Rights, Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, requested 4 reports concerning:

- ▶ the bill aiming for real gender equality
- ▶ access to abortion and to adequate information on the Internet
- ▶ the interconnections between gender equality and territorial equality
- ▶ gender stereotypes in the fields of education, media and institutional communication.

The **HCEfh** also publishes opinions on draft legislation or reforms on issues such as prostitution or the right of asylum **on its own initiative**.

For more information:

Follow us on Twitter: [@HCEfh](https://twitter.com/HCEfh)

Find our resources and works on our website:

www.haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr

Submit to our newsletter:

<http://www.haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr/autres-rubriques/article/lettre-d-information>

Contact us: haut-conseil-egalite@pm.gouv.fr

The HCEfh in French institutional landscape

The **HCEfh** contributes to the synergy of the institutions working for gender equality: their representatives (apart from the ministry for women's rights) are ex officio members and therefore members of the permanent board of the HCEfh.

Advisory bodies

HCEfh

(High Council for Gender Equality)
Danielle Bousquet, President

Promotes public debate and enables close consultation with civil society on the subjects of gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, parity, gender stereotypes and European and international issues.

CSEP

(Higher Council for Professional Equality)
Marisol Touraine, President
Brigitte Gresy, Secretary-general

Participates in the definition, the implementation and the assessment of the policy on professional gender equality

Governmental institutions

President

Prime Minister

Other ministries

Ministry for Social Affairs, Health and Women's Rights
Marisol Touraine, Minister
Pascaline Boistard, Secretary of State in charge of Women's rights

Prepares and implements government policies on gender equality

Senior civil servants in charge of gender equality

DGCS – SDFE

(Department for women's rights and gender equality of the Directorate General of Social Cohesion)

Sabine Fourcade
Executive Director
Stéphanie Seydoux
Head of department

MIPROF

(Interministerial committee for the protection of women against violence and the fight against human trafficking)

Elisabeth Moiron-Braud
Secretary-general

Implements gender equality policy

Broadens knowledge of violence against women and of experiments carried out throughout the country in order to generalize them

Propose and follow the implementation of measures in their respective ministries

Constitutional assemblies

Senate

DDFE (Women's rights and gender equality Delegation)
Chantal JOUANNO
President

National Assembly

DDFE (Women's rights and gender equality Delegation)
Catherine Coustelle
President

Economic, Social and Environmental Council

DDFE (Women's rights and gender equality Delegation)
Geneviève Bel
President

Assess draft laws and bills with regard to gender equality and make propositions