The High Council for Gender Equality (HCE) is the French independent advisory body in charge of women’s rights and gender equality. It was recognized by the law for equality and citizenship passed in January 2017. This law entrusts the HCE with a new mission: publishing an annual report about sexism in France.

Danielle Bousquet has been the President of the HCE since January 2013. Starting as an activist at Planned Parenthood, she then directed an Information Center for the rights of women and families. Later, she was elected as a member of parliament and became Vice-president of the French National Assembly. She was also the Vice-president of the National Assembly’s delegation for women’s rights. She specifically worked on the fight against the prostitution system, gender-based violence, abortion rights and contraception.
**HCE’S MISSIONS**

**The HCE**

Ensures discussions with the stakeholders of gender equality

**The members**

The High Council for Gender Equality is made up of individuals from different backgrounds who bring their expertise and views on different issues:

- **13 QUALIFIED PERSONALITIES**
- **10 EXPERTS AND RESEARCHERS**
- **13 HIGH CIVIL SERVANTS IN CHARGE OF GENDER EQUALITY**
- **10 NGO REPRESENTATIVES**
- **8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**
- **7 MEMBERS BY RIGHT**
- **11 ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

**The commissions**

The HCE members are grouped in **5 commissions** that prepare reports on:

- Gender-based violence;
- Gender stereotypes;
- European and international issues;
- Parity in politics, administrations, economy and the social sphere;
- Sexual and reproductive health and rights.

**HCE’S WORK**

Since its creation, the HCE published 15 reports, 9 notices, 2 studies and 1 high level advocacy statement.

In order to fight gender-based violence more efficiently, the HCE brings unknown and tolerated issues (notice on rape - October 2016) to the attention of public authorities and evaluates the national plan to fight against violence.

The HCE published a report on the deconstruction of stereotypes in communication, education and the media. The Guide for a public communication without gender stereotypes offers tools for a non-stereotyped communication. The HCE also puts forward a commitment that organizations can sign.

With each election, the HCE takes stock on the advancement of parity. Its last report was about local governments (February 2017).

In order to get funding that measures up to the stakes, the HCE published an unprecedented report called "Where is the money for women’s rights?" with the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE), the Women’s Foundation, the Mediterranean women’s fund, UN Women France and W4 France.

The HCE suggests ways of reinforcing women’s sexual and reproductive rights and their access to health through its work on: abortion rights (2013), sexual education for young people (2016), access to health for women in precarious situations (2017).

Women’s rights are an international issue. The HCE evaluates the actions of France in those matters (annual reports on the "gender and development" strategy), publishes thematic reports (on asylum right for example) and contributes to international advocacy statements (COP21 and CSW).

Find all reports and key figures, chronologies and legal references on our website: haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr

Coming up in 2018: the HCE’s annual report on sexism in France.