

# HCE

HAUT CONSEIL  
à l'**EGALITE**  
**ENTRE LES**  
**FEMMES ET**  
**LES HOMMES**

The **HCE** is an independent advisory body attached to the Prime Minister's Office. It was established by decree of the President of the French Republic on January 3rd, 2013. The **HCE promotes public debate** on 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 (**HCE**) objectives are:

- ▶ to **critically screen the policies** on gender equality, formulate public assessments and recommendations;
- ▶ to **allow closer interaction among the different actors** in the field of gender equality by offering a new framework for exchanges and research ;
- ▶ 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 HCE** by the Prime Minister in January 2013, and reappointed in Jan. 2016.

Former **Member of the French National Assembly** for Côtes-d'Armor (1997-2012), she has also been **vice-president of the National Assembly** (2009-2010) and **vice-president of the National Assembly's Delegation on women's rights and gender equality** (2002-2012).

Danielle Bousquet specifically worked on the subjects 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 allowing free access to the emergency contraceptive pill, 2000).

## Structure

The **HCE**'s organization reflects its interdisciplinary approach.

It is composed of 5 commissions, which meet once a month; they are presided over by :



### Gender-based violence

**Élisabeth 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 interministerial committee for the protection of women against violence (MIPROF)*



**Gender stereotypes and roles,**  
**Françoise Vouillot,**  
Lecturer in the Labour  
& professional Orientation  
Institute of the CNAM  
(Centre national des Arts  
et Métiers)



**International and European Affairs,**  
**Maxime Forest,**  
associate professor  
and researcher associated  
to the PRESAGE program  
(Sciences Po)



**Parity in political, administrative,  
economic and social fields,**  
**Réjane Sénac,**  
CNRS-CEVIPOF researcher  
and member of the steering  
committee of the PRESAGE  
program (Sciences Po)



**Health, sexual and reproductive rights,**  
**Geneviève Couraud,**  
Feminist militant, Head of the  
(elected) Women's Assembly  
and former local Councillor  
in Marseille

## High-level expertise

The **HCE** 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
- ▶ political 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
- ▶ senior civil servants,
- ▶ ex officio members: presidents of the Delegations for women's rights in 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.

## Activities

- ▶ Contributing to the assessment of public policies
- ▶ Evaluating gender impact assessment studies carried out by the government for any bill carrying high stakes in terms of gender equality
- ▶ Presenting recommendations, advices and reform proposals to the Prime Minister
- ▶ Collecting and spreading French, European and international analyses and studies on gender equality

## Work programme

Both the Prime Minister and the Minister for Women's Rights can request an opinion from the **HCE**. Since 2013, were requested

- ▶ the bill aiming at a real gender equality
- ▶ access to abortion and access 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.
- ▶ Sexual harassment and violence in public transports

The **HCE**, on its own initiative, also publishes reports on political parity, opinions on draft legislation or reforms on issues such as prostitution or the right to asylum. It also produced a plea for women's empowerment in the framework of the COP 21 negotiations on climate change.

### For more information:

Follow us on Twitter: [@HCEfh](#)

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[Haut Conseil à l'Égalité](#)

Find our resources and works on our website:  
[www.haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr](http://www.haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr)

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Contact us:  
[haut-conseil-egalite@pm.gouv.fr](mailto:haut-conseil-egalite@pm.gouv.fr)

## The High Council for Gender Equality (HCE) in the French institutional landscape

The HCE contributes to the synergy between various institutions : Representatives of the whole range of institutional entities working on gender equality are ex officio members of the HCE, and thus members of its Permanent Committee.

### Advisory Body

#### HCE

High Council for Gender Equality,  
Attached to the Prime Minister's Office  
*Danielle Bousquet, President*

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

## Governmental entities

President of the Republic

Prime Minister

### Minister of Families, Childhood and Women's Rights

*Laurence Rossignol, Minister*

Prepares and implements Gender Equality policies

Other Ministries

**Senior civil servants in charge of Gender Equality**

Propose new measures and monitor their implementation in their respective Ministries

#### DGCS – SDPE

(Women's Rights and Equality Directorate, part of DG Social Cohesion)  
*Jean-Philippe Vinquandt  
Director General  
Stéphanie Seydoux  
Director*

Implements Gender Equality policies

#### MIPROF

(Interministerial committee for the protection of women against violence and the fight against human trafficking)  
*Elisabeth Molron-Braud  
Secretary general*

Studies and disseminates researches about gender-based violence, as well as best practices developed throughout France.

#### CSEPF

(Higher Council for Professional Equality) Presided over by the Minister of Families, Childhood and Women's Rights  
*Brigitte Grévy  
Secretary general*

Contributes to the definition, implementation and assessment of public policies related to professional equality.

## Constitutional Assemblies

Senate	National Assembly	Economic, Social and Environmental Council
<b>DDFE</b> (Delegation for Women's Rights ) <i>Chantal Jouanno President</i>	<b>DDFE</b> (Delegation for Women's Rights) <i>Catherine Coutelle President</i>	<b>DDFE</b> (Delegation for Women's Rights) <i>Pascalie Vion President</i>

Assess draft laws and projects through the prism of Gender Equality, submit proposals