



## MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Monday 3th and tuesday 4th november 2008

FRANZÖSISCHE PRÄSIDENTSCHAFT  
EUROPAISCHE UNION  
FRENCH PRESIDENCY  
EUROPEAN UNION  
ФРЕНСКО ПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛСТВО  
ЕВРОПЕЙСКИ СЪЮЗ  
FRANSK EURLMÄNDSCAP  
EUROPÆISK UNION  
PRESIDENCIA FRANCESA  
UNION EUROPEA  
EESISTUJARIK PRANTSUSMAA  
EUROOPA LIIT  
FRANSKAN PUHEENJOHTAJUUS  
EUROOPAN UNIONI  
ΓΑΛΛΙΚΗ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗ ΕΝΩΣΗ  
FRANCIA ELNÖKSÉG  
EUROPÁI UNIÓ  
UACHTARANACH NA FRAINCE  
AN LAONTAS EORPACH  
PRESIDENZA FRANCESE  
UNIONE EUROPEA  
FRANCIJAS PREZIDENTŪRA  
EIROPAS SAVIENĪBA  
FRANCÚZIJOS PIRMININKAVIMAS  
EUROPOS SAJUNGA  
PREZIDENZA FRANČIZA  
UNJŃNI EWROPEA  
FRANS VOORZITTERSCHAP  
EUROPESE UNIE  
PREZYDENCJA FRANCUSKA  
UNIA EUROPEJSKA  
PRESIDENCIA FRANCESA  
UNIÃO EUROPEIA  
PRESEDINTIA FRANCEZĂ  
UNIONE EUROPEANĂ  
FRANCŪZSKÉ PŘEDSEDNICTVO  
EUROPSKA UNIA  
FRANCOSKO PŘEDSEDSTVO  
EVROPSKA UNIJA  
FRANSKA ORDFÖRANDESKAPET  
EUROPEISKA UNIONEN  
FRANCŪZSKÉ PŘEDSEDNICTVÍ  
EVROPSKÁ UNIE

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## **Presentation of the Vichy ministerial conference On 3 and 4 november 2008**

**As holder of the Presidency of the European Union, France is organising the third European Ministerial Conference on Integration to be held in Vichy on 3 and 4 November 2008.**

The EU integration ministers met for the first time in November 2004 in Groningen, under the Dutch Presidency. Their work led to the Justice and Home Affairs Council (JHA) adopting Common Basic Principles on integration on 19 November 2004. The Potsdam conference, held under the German Presidency in May 2007, consolidated the achievements of Groningen and added a new dimension by initiating reflection on intercultural dialogue as a tool for strengthening integration.

**France intends for the Vichy conference to build upon the work and studies on integration undertaken at European level and to further develop the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum.**

The conference follows on from those held in Groningen and Potsdam and is also based on the studies conducted by the European Commission with the support of the network of National Contact Points on integration, composed of experts appointed by each Member State.

The work carried out at Vichy will also further develop the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum adopted by the JHA Council on 15 and 16 October 2008, which contains important commitments on integration.

**In an area within the competence of each Member State, France would like to further harmonise ideas and practices within the European Union with regard to the following subjects that it assesses to be of primary importance.**

The following subjects such as the promotion of EU values, the integration process, access to employment and diversity within employment, the integration of women, intercultural dialogue and the governance of integration policies, are contained in the outline of a draft statement to be examined at Vichy. France would like this draft, as discussed by the ministers in Vichy, to serve as a basis for the conclusions to be adopted by the JHA Council on 27 and 28 November 2008 and to help advance the common agenda for integration policies in Europe.

**The conference programme will allow plenty of scope for discussion between the ministers responsible for integration in the EU.**

Brice Hortefeux, the French Minister for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Mutually-Supportive Development, will give the opening address at the Vichy conference. This will be followed by addresses from Fadela Amara, the French Minister of State for Urban Policies, and Jacques Barrot, Vice-President of the European Commission. The conference will first review the work undertaken since the Potsdam conference by the European Commission and by Germany, which will present the results of the work carried out on intercultural dialogue. Two themes will be examined in more depth, through two ministers presenting their experiences in each of the following areas: knowledge of the language and values of the host society, and access to employment and promotion of diversity. The conference will then examine the draft statement proposed by France and the subjects it covers. It will be closed with a press conference.

**Monday 3th november 2008**

- 12 heures 30** Welcome of delegations ;
- 14 heures 10** Home protocol (*Salle à manger des Ministres – Palais des Congrès*) ;
- 14 heures 30** Opening of the conference (*Conference room - Palais des Congrès*) ;
- Opening remarks by M. Brice HORTEFEUX, Minister of Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Solidarity Development ;
- Keynote speech by Ms Fadela AMARA, Secretary of State to the Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, with responsibility for Urban Affairs ;
- Keynote speech by M. Jacques BARROT, Vice-président of the European Commission, in charge of Justice, Freedom and Security ;
- Keynote speech by M. Wolfgang SCHAUBLE, German Federal Minister for the Interior ;
- Keynote speech by M. Gérard DEPREZ, Chairman of the European Parliament LIBE Committee ;
- Keynote speech by the representant of the European Union Committee of the Regions ;
- Keynote speech by the representant of the European Economic and Social Committee ;
- 17 heures** Group photo session (*Press conference room*) ;
- 19 heures 45** Spectacle (*Palais des Congrès*) ;
- 21 heures** Official dinner (*Palais des Congrès - Salon Napoléon III*).

**Tuesday 4th november 2008**

**9 heures 30** Introduction by Mr Brice HORTEFEUX, Minister of immigration, integration, national Identity and solidarity development ;

**9 heures 40** Beginning of exchanges (*Conference room*)

- Theme n° 1 : Language learning and knowledge of the values of the host society ;
- Theme n° 2 : Access to employment and promotion of diversity – conditions for success ;

**12 heures 30** Press conference (*Press conference room*).

## Participants

Biography of Mr Brice HORTEFEUX, Minister of immigration, integration, national identity and solidarity development

Presentation of the ministry of immigration, integration, national identity and solidarity development

### Biographies

**France** – Ms Fadela AMARA,  
Secretary of State to the Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, with responsibility for Urban Affairs ;

**European Union** – Mr Jacques BARROT,  
Vice president of the European Commission, responsible for justice, freedom and security

**European Union** – Mr Gérard DEPREZ,  
Chairman of the Committee on civil liberties, justice and home affairs in the European Parliament

**Germany** – Mr Wolfgang SCHÄUBLE,  
Minister of interior

European Union Committee of the Regions

European Economic and Social Committee

## Biography of Brice HORTEFEUX



Born on 11 May 1958 in Neuilly-sur-Seine, a former student of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po) and holder of a master's degree in public law from the University of Paris X-Nanterre, in 1983, Brice HORTEFEUX became Chief of Staff for Nicolas SARKOZY at Neuilly-sur-Seine town hall. In 1993, he accompanied Nicolas SARKOZY as Chief of Staff when he was appointed Minister for the Budget and Communication and spokesperson for the government of Edouard BALLADUR. Two years later, Brice HORTEFEUX became a Prefect (senior civil servant), responsible to the government for a public service mission.

Member of Auvergne Regional Council since March 1992, Chairman of its Finance Committee and budget rapporteur from 1998 to 2004, Brice HORTEFEUX is also President of the Puy-de-Dôme UMP (Union pour un Mouvement Populaire). At a national level, he is the UMP's political advisor, after being Deputy General Secretary from November 2004 to May 2007. On 13 October 2008, Brice HORTEFEUX has been appointed national secretary for elections.

In September 1999, he took over from Nicolas SARKOZY as an MEP. Re-elected in June 2004, he had to step down one year later when he joined Dominique de VILLEPIN's government as Minister Delegate for Local Government. In May 2007, he was appointed Minister for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Solidarity Development in the government of François FILLON.

He has written, in collaboration with André LEVÔTRE, « *Jardin à la française, plaidoyer pour une République de proximité* », published in 2003 (Ed. Denoël).

## Information on the ministry

The ministry was created on 18 May 2007 by the French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, in order to manage migratory flows, encourage the integration of immigrants, promote the national identity and foster cooperative developments with source countries of immigration. It has around 600 agents.

### The Secretary General

The Secretary General is responsible for coordinating the departments and establishments linked to the Ministry and for implementing the policy defined by the Minister.

Its role is to evaluate policies, prepare and implement the Ministry's budget, modernise services (general review of public policies) and draw up principles for managing human resources.

It has authority over all departments.

### The Immigration Division

Is responsible for issuing visas, monitors borders, and is in charge of residence and work permits. It prepares national rules in these domains and takes part in the elaboration of European standards. It coordinates their implementation as well as fight against smuggling.

### The Department of Reception, Integration and Citizenship

Is responsible for receiving and integrating migrant populations in France. It manages policies for learning French, access to employment and equal access to public services and welfare rights. It is responsible for deciding on the award and withdrawal of French citizenship.

### The Department of European Affairs

Represents the Ministry within the different working groups of the European Union.

It coordinates the initiatives that France intends to offer its partners with regard to immigration and asylum: this role, essential during the French Presidency of the European Union (second half of 2008), in which immigration is a priority, shall continue after 2008.

### The Asylum Department

Is responsible for the right of asylum in France and for monitoring European policy in this area. It is the sole contact for diplomatic and consular bodies, prefectures and associations with regard to all aspects concerning the right of asylum.

It comes under the administrative and financial supervision of the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless People and manages the procedures and credits of the European Refugee Fund.

### The Department of International Affairs and Development through solidarity

Negotiates joint management agreements for migratory flows (legal migration, fight against clandestine immigration and co-development).

It funds development projects in source countries of immigration to France.

It encourages professional immigration by promoting professions experiencing recruitment difficulties in France

### **The General Administration and Finance Department**

Is responsible for preparing and monitoring the implementation of the budget, the human resources policy and for managing operating resources and buildings as well as for concluding contracts.

### **The Strategy Department**

Coordinates statistical production. Through its studies and those it instigates in the area of research into immigration, integration and co-development issues, it drives initiatives and meetings. It prepares the Ministry's IT master plan and manages computer application projects. It is responsible for managing and ensuring the performance of the Ministry departments.

### **The Communication Mission**

Oversees and coordinates the implementation of information resources and the Ministry's communication.

## Ministère de l'immigration, de l'intégration, de l'identité nationale et du développement solidaire

