

FRENCH CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF SECRETARY-GENERAL



Mr Alain Madelin

Alain Madelin is a lawyer.

Alain Madelin has held a range of key ministerial posts at the highest level, covering many areas of the economy.

He has been Minister for Economics and Finance, Minister of Business and Economic Development, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Trade and Craft Industries; and Minister of Industry, Postal Services and Telecommunications and Tourism.

He has been a Member of the French Parliament since 1978 (re-elected in 1981, 1986, 1988, 1993, 1995 and 2002).

Alain Madelin has always been known as a staunch defender of democratic and economic freedom, of free trade and of the social market economy. In his view, those who are prosperous help create prosperity for those who are less so.

He believes, moreover, that social progress is inseparable from the search for greater economic efficiency.

His wide experience of comparative economic systems in developed countries has enabled him to identify and point to where economic reforms are required. At the same time Alain Madelin has been much influenced by the 'public choice' school of economic thought: thus he has always been concerned in *how* to implement these reforms by gaining the widest base of public support.

- In France

In his role as a government Minister, Alain Madelin contributed significantly to the first French privatisation programme - implemented in 1986, and to the deregulation of telecommunication and power companies.

As Minister for the Economy and Finance, he contributed to the introduction of the euro, by launching, in 1995, a recurring annual programme for the reduction of public deficits.

Believing as he does in the importance of ideas, in the impact of sound economic analyses and in the necessity of benchmarking national policies - and while maintaining his political activities in the public domain, Alain Madelin has founded and led several think-tanks. It was through this work that he became involved in the major challenges of the new, post Cold-War world emerging after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

- In Europe

Alain Madelin has twice been elected to the European Parliament - in 1989, after managing the campaign of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, and again in 1999, after conducting the campaign with Nicolas Sarkozy.

In 1989 he created and chaired Institute Euro 92, aimed at analysing the challenges and proposing the necessary changes confronting all European countries following the establishment of the Single Market.

Madelin was deeply involved in supporting the new democracies born out of the collapse of the Soviet empire. In so doing – largely through his extensive contacts with the future leaders of these new democracies, he studied and addressed the issues of economic transition arising during *perestroika* and before the fall of the Berlin Wall.

In 1990, he co-founded the International Centre for Economic Transformation (ICRET) in Moscow (together with the Institute of Economic Affairs); and throughout this time he organised seminars and conferences in most of the emerging European democracies.

- New world challenges

Alain Madelin is keenly aware of the importance of environmental issues and the necessity of reconciling the market economy with major ecological concerns and priorities. With this aim, he founded the International Centre for Research on Environmental Issues (ICREI) that regularly organises national and international events.

Particularly concerned with issues of international development, he has taken a special interest in Africa. In this connection, he facilitated the bringing together of the development plans devised by Presidents Abdoulaye Wade and Thabo Mbeki, which led to the establishment of NEPAD.

Equally, Alain Madelin has a sound knowledge of Asian economies. He has conducted a dialogue on the development of democracy, the rule of law and the market economy in the Middle East and the possibility of their reconciliation with the values of Islam.

Alain Madelin recently organised a major event in France on the theme of 'The Four Truths about Globalisation' (Les 4 Vérités de la Mondialisation) as part of his endeavour to develop a positive vision of globalisation.

Alain Madelin is the author of many books and articles, including:

- Freeing Schools (Editions Robert Laffont, 1984)
- My Fellow Countryman (Editions Lattès, 1994)
- When the Ostriches Raised Their Heads (Editions Robert Laffont, 1995)
- The Origins of the French Liberal Model (Editions Plon-Perrin, 1997)

- The Rights of the Weakest (Editions Robert Laffont, 1999)
- When the Ostriches Retire (Editions du Seuil, 2003)

Mr Alain Madelin

26 March, 1946 born Paris

1971 became a lawyer

Ministerial positions

1995 Minister for the Economy and Finance

1993-1995 Minister for Business and Economic Development, responsible for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Trade and Craft Industries

1986-1988 Minister of Industry, Postal Services and Telecommunications and Tourism

Electoral mandates

1978-86, 1988-93, and continuously 1997 - 2005 Member of the French Parliament

1999-2002 Member of the European Parliament

1995-2001 Mayor of Redon (Department of Ille-et-Vilaine)

1994-1995 Member of the Ille-et-Vilaine General Council

1986-92 and 1992-98 Member, then Vice-Chairman of the Brittany Regional Council

For more information, visit: <http://alainmadelin.com>