



## **Najat VALLAUD-BELKACEM**

### **Minister of Women's Rights and Government spokesperson**

#### **France**

Najat Vallaud-Belkacem was born on October 4, 1977 in Beni Chiker, Morocco. In 1982, she moved to France with her family and started to live in Amiens, an industrial town in the North of France. She graduated from the Paris Institute of Political Studies in 2000. She holds a B.A in Public Law.

She joined the French Socialist Party in 2002. She has since held several political responsibilities. Since 2005 she has been a member of the National Committee of the Socialist Party. She also was a member of the National Board of the Socialist Party from 2008 to 2012. She supports a more inclusive European Union and was appointed vice-president of the European Movement, a transnational think-tank that promotes European integration.

#### **Profile:**

Her first position was assistant lawyer at a legal practice for the Conseil d'Etat, the French supreme court for administrative justice, from 2000 to 2002. She then worked for a year as an aide to Congresswoman Béatrice Marre. In 2003, she entered the Office of Mr Gérard Collomb, Mayor of Lyon, the third largest city of France. During five years, she served as project manager in charge of local democracy, fight against discriminations, citizens' rights, and access to employment and housing. In 2010, she started teaching at her Alma Mater, the Paris Institute of Political Studies.

Najat Vallaud-Belkacem held several elective offices. From 2004 to 2008 she served as Regional Councilor, Rhône-Alpes. In 2008 she became General Councilor, Rhône, and Community Counselor for the Urban Community of Lyon. From 2008 to 2012 she served as Deputy Mayor of Lyon, in charge of events organization, Youth and Community organizations.