

# HENRI MALOSSE

# PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE 2013-2015

In becoming the 30th president of the European Economic and Social Committee, Henri Malosse has confirmed his commitment to the creation of a Europe that is ambitious and that serves the people of Europe.

A member of the EESC since 1995, Mr Malosse was elected president of the Employers' Group in 2006 and is the author of over fifty reports, including a highly critical analysis of the *Bolkestein* Directive. Pragmatic and committed, he has been actively involved in EU policies supporting SMEs and, in particular, inspired the creation of the *Euro Info Centres*, specialist EU policy information centres, in over 300 towns and cities across Europe.

Mr Malosse was personally involved in the launch of the French Chambers of Commerce and Industry Delegation to the European Union, becoming its president six years later. Already a firm believer in the importance of building a strong bridge between the EU institutions and civil society, he went on to establish the *European Association of SMEs* at the European Parliament several years later.

Mr Malosse was born in France to Corsican parents in October 1954 and quickly developed a firm conviction that Europe has a key role to play in nurturing a sense of European citizenship. He won a competition on European integration aged just 16 and was soon exploring the cultures of Eastern Europe, becoming a fluent speaker of Polish and Russian. Keenly aware of the need to confront the situation on the ground, he travelled widely throughout the region. It was during one of his visits to Gdansk in 1976 that he met Lech Walesa, with whom he shares a passion for freedom and an aversion to all forms of oppression.

His parents were teachers so Henri Malosse feels a strong sense of responsibility towards young people and he himself taught for many years in France, Poland and Russia. In 1993, he founded a DESS post-graduate degree course in Strasbourg entitled *European public policies*.

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## HENRI MALOSSE IN BRIEF...

Born on 6 October 1954 in Montpellier (Hérault) – France 1 child

Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honour Knight of the National Order of Merit

**Education** 

- Proficiency in German, English, Polish and Russian
- Graduated from IEP Paris (1976), International Relations Section
- Bachelor DEA of Eastern and Central European studies (1979)
- Diplomas from the Universities of Munich and Warsaw

### **European activities**

- Information campaigns on the Constitutional Treaty (2004-2005), the Euro (2000-2001), Enlargement (2002-2003) and the Single Market (1987)
- President of the European Economic and Social Committee's Employers' Group (2006-2013), SOC Section (Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship) (2004-2006), and of its ECO Section (Economic and Monetary Union and Economic and Social Cohesion) (2002-2004), member of the EESC Bureau and Co-President of the EU-Bulgaria Joint Committee
- Creation (1987) and launch of the European Network of Euro Information Centres (in 2003 there were almost 300 Euro Info Centres across the whole of Europe, including the EU Member States and associated countries)
- Conception and launch of the JEV financial instrument for the SME partnership in Europe (120 million Ecus over the 3 year period from 1998-2000)
- Creation of the French Permanent Delegates Circle (CDPF) (1995) bringing together 140 organisations represented in Brussels; President until 2003 and currently Honorary Member
- Responsibility for the EESC's activities with candidate countries in connection with the Convention on the Future of Europe (2001-2003)
- Creation of the Masters/DESS course on "European public policies" at the Robert Schuman University in Strasbourg (1993)
- Professor at the University of Kaunas (Lithuania), Wroclaw (Poland) and the Diplomatic Institute in Moscow (Russia)
- Design of "know how transfer" programmes for Eastern Europe in the fields of support for the private sector (SMEs) and civil society
- Creation of the French Chambers of Commerce and Industry Delegation to the European Union (1979)

### **Other activities**

- Honorary President of the Culture, Economy, Defence network
- Lecturer on major European issues (Enlargement, euro, SMEs, single market, structural funds, the European social model, the future of Europe): European House, ICC, meetings, seminars
- Member of the Policy Board of the Centre for European Studies in Strasbourg (CEES) at the ENA in Strasbourg
- Member of various structures of Franco-German cooperation
- Member of the Steering Committee of the Jean Monnet Association
- Speaker at economic for a in Brussels

### **Publications**

- Building Europe: The History and Future of a Europe of the People ed L'harmattan (2012)
- We must save the European citizen! A "C plan" to a citizen's Europe (II faut sauver le citoyen européen ! Un "plan C" pour rendre l'Europe aux citoyens) with Bruno Vever, Editions Bruylant (2008)
- Europe from A to Z with Pascal Fontaine, Editions Bruylant, 2006
- Unifying the Greater Europe (Unifier la Grande Europe), co-authored with Bernard Huchet, with a preface by Jean-Pierre Raffarin and postscipt by Jacques Santer (2001)
- Towards a Greater Europe (Vers la Grande Europe), ed. Bernard Huchet, prefaced by Yves-Thibault de Silguy (1996)
- The European Institutions (Les institutions européennes), with Pascal Fontaine (1991, 1993);
- *Europe at your doorstep (l'Europe à votre porte), a* guide to EU funding mechanisms (1990, 1992, 1994, 1995)

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