

Françoise Gaspard

Born on 7 June 1945 in Dreux, France

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Expert member of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

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Françoise Gaspard has a triple education in history (holder of degree in History), political science (a graduate of the Paris Institute of Political Studies) and public law (a former student of the French National School of Public Administration — ENA). She holds executive functions in youth movements and also has political experience as an elected representative (mayor, member of the European Parliament, member of the French National Assembly, regional and town councillor).

After serving in parliamentary and local posts for 12 years, Françoise Gaspard decided to go back to research. She is currently a senior lecturer at EHESS in Paris and attached to the Centre for Sociological Analysis and Intervention, a laboratory of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS). Her work has led her to teach and give lectures in many universities in Europe and America. Françoise Gaspard has taken part in a number of technical assistance missions in Europe and Africa aimed at introducing the gender dimension into national legislation and policies.

In January 1998, she was appointed French representative to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. In 2000, she was elected a member of CEDAW on which she has served since January 2001.

Her academic works have focused, in particular, on the history of migration, urban sociology and social movements. Many of her books and articles are available in English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Japanese.

Education and qualifications

Graduated in History and Geography from the Sorbonne, Paris, 1968.

Graduated from the Paris Institute of Political Studies, 1968.

Former postgraduate student in Political Science at the National Foundation for Political Science in Paris, 1968-1970.

Obtained the *Agrégation* to teach history at secondary school level, 1970.

Former student at the French National School of Public Administration (ENA), André Malraux year, 1977.

Professional activities

Did odd jobs (selling newspapers, working as a receptionist, giving private lessons, etc.) to pay for her university studies.

Technical assistant to the President of the University of Paris X, 1968-1970.

Part-time lecturer in Economic History at the Sorbonne, 1970-1974.

History teacher at the Lycée Michelet in Vanves, 1971-1974.

Student at ENA, 1975-1977.

Judge of the Administrative Court of Versailles, 1977-1979.

On secondment in order to carry out parliamentary duties, 1979-1988.

Returned as an Administrative Court judge in 1998.

Appointed Senior Lecturer at EHESS in 1990.

Part-time lecturer at ENA.

Visited many European and North American universities in order to lecture on immigration and women's rights. In particular, Françoise Gaspard was a guest lecturer of the Jean Monnet Chair at Montreal University in 1998 and a visiting scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1999.

Elected offices

Mayor of Dreux, 1977-1983.

Member of the European Parliament, 1979-1981.

Member of the French National Assembly for Eure-et-Loir, 1981-1988.

Regional councillor, 1981-1986.

Town councillor, 1983-1989.

Expert missions and other activities

Member of the *Conseil National des Populations Immigrées* (National Council for Immigrant Populations), 1983-1994.

Member of the *Haut Conseil National pour le Logement des Personnes Défavorisées* (National Council for the Housing of Disadvantaged Persons), 1989-1995.

French representative in the "Women in decision-making" network of the 3rd medium-term Community Programme for Equal Opportunities, 1991-1996.

Since 1996, expert member of the Committee of "Elected Women" of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions.

French representative to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, 1998-2000.

Expert member of CEDAW since January 2001.

Member of the (French) National Consultative Commission on Human Rights since 2002.

Speaker at many seminars and symposiums organized, inter alia, by the European Institute of Public Administration and the World Bank.

As CEDAW correspondent for UNESCO and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Françoise Gaspard helped to draft the IPU Handbook for Parliamentarians entitled "The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol" (2003), and carried out several missions to Rwanda in order to assist in the drafting of the new Rwandan Constitution and electoral laws and to prepare women for the 2003 national elections.

From 1999 to 2003, Françoise Gaspard was a member of a European team in charge of research on "gender and local management", which focused on seven European Union countries. As part of this work, she wrote a handbook on the introduction of the gender dimension into local management.

Publications

Books

Souvenir et avenir de Dreux ("The city of Dreux: from memories to the future"), Evreux, Herissey, 1977.

Madame Le ... (Madam Chair ...), Paris, Grasset, 1978.

La fin des immigrés ("The End of Immigration"), with Claude Servan-Schreiber, Paris, Le Seuil, 1984. Translated into Japanese, Nobuhiro Hayashi, 1989.

Maurice Viollette, Un homme, Trois Républiques ("Maurice Viollette: A Man Across Three Republics"), Chartres Museum, 1985.

Maurice Viollette, homme politique et éditorialiste ("Maurice Viollette, Politician and Editorial Writer"), Pontoise, Edijac, 1986.

De Dreux à Alger, Maurice Viollette 1870-1970 (dir.) ("Maurice Viollette: From Dreux to Algiers, 1870-1970"), Paris, L'Harmattan, 1991.

Une petite ville en France ("A Small Town in France"), Paris, Gallimard, 1991. Translated into English, Harvard University Press, 1995.

Au pouvoir citoyennes! Liberté, Egalité, Parité ("Power to women citizens! Liberty, Equality, Parity"), with Claude Servan-Schreiber and Anne Le Gall, Paris, Le Seuil, 1992.

Le foulard et la République ("The Islamic Shawl and the Republic"), with Farhad Khosrowkhavar, Paris, Editions de La Découverte, 1995.

L'Union des Foyers de Jeunes Travailleurs, D'une jeunesse ouvrière à une jeunesse incertaine, Quarante ans d'histoire d'un mouvement associatif, 1955-1995 ("Union of Young Workers' Hostels — from a working class background to an uncertain future, 1955-1995: Forty years in the history of Associations"), Paris, Les Éditions de l'Atelier, 1995.

Les femmes dans la prise de décision en France et en Europe ("Women in decision-making in France and Europe"), Paris, L'Harmattan, 1997.

Comment les femmes changent la politique et pourquoi les hommes résistent ("How women change politics and why men resist"), with Philippe Bataille, Paris, Editions de La Découverte, 1999. Translated into Spanish and Portuguese. Translation into Arabic is under way.

Prefaces

Preface (with Olivier Guichard) to Pierre Zemor, *La commune mise à jour* ("Reviewing communes in France"), Le Moniteur, 1983.

Preface to Eliane Viennot et al., *La démocratie "à la française" ou les femmes indésirables* ("French' democracy or undesirable women"), Paris, Publications de l'Université Paris 7/Denis Diderot, 1996, pp. 7-16.

Preface to Catherine Delcroix et al., *Médiatrices dans les quartiers fragilisés: Le lien* ("Mediators in vulnerable districts: Providing a link"), La documentation française, Paris, 1997, pp. 9-12.

Preface to William Guerraiche, *Les femmes et la République* ("Women and the Republic"), Les Editions de l'Atelier, Paris, 1999, pp. 7-9.

Preface to Huguette Delavault et al., *Les enseignantes chercheuses à l'université, Demain la parité?* ("Women teacher-researchers at university: Is gender parity for tomorrow?"), Paris, L'Harmattan, 2002.

Contributions to collective works

"Les titulaires de la Francisque" ("Vichy: the francisc men"), with Gérard Grunberg, in *Le Gouvernement de Vichy 1940-1942*, Presses de la Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques, Armand Colin, Paris, 1972, pp. 71-85.

"L'immigration maghrébine, réalités et représentations", in Magali Morsly et al., *Les Nord-Africains en France* ("Immigration from the Maghreb: realities and images"), Publication du Centre des Hautes Etudes sur l'Afrique et l'Asie Moderne, Paris, 1985, pp. 51-59.

"Donne e massoneria. Massoneria famiglia-massoneria femminista? Il caso della francia" ("Women and Freemasonry, Freemasonry and the Family, Freemasonry and Feminism? The situation in France"), *La massoneria oggi*, Poggia, Bastoggi, 1991, pp. 94-113.

"Racisme et nationalité" ("Racism and nationality"), in Michel Wieviorka et al., *Racisme et modernité*, Paris, La Découverte, 1993, pp. 152-158.

"La création, le fonctionnement et la structure des partis politiques" ("The creation, running and structure of political parties"), *Démocratie et déceptions partis politiques, participation et non-participation aux institutions démocratiques en Europe*, Strasbourg, 1994, pp. 183-193.

"Le sujet est-il neutre?" ("Can one remain neutral?"), in Michel Wieviorka and François Dubet, *Penser le sujet*, Colloque de Cerisy, Paris, Fayard, 1995, pp. 143-155.

"La citoyenneté des immigrées et de leurs filles" ("Citizenship of female immigrants and their daughters"), *Stratégies de femmes pour l'intégration*, Délégation régionale aux droits des femmes Rhône-Alpes, Lyon, 1995, pp. 81-94.

"Des partis et des femmes" ("Political parties and women"), in Michèle Riot-Sarcey, *Démocratie et représentation*, Paris, Kimé, 1995, pp. 221-242.

"Franc-maçonnerie, République et exclusion des femmes" ("Freemasonry, the Republic and the exclusion of women"), in Eliane Viennot, *La démocratie "à la française" ou les femmes indésirables*, Paris, Publications de l'Université Paris 7/Denis Diderot, 1996, pp. 63-75.

"La République et les femmes" ("The Republic and women"), in Michel Wieviorka, *Une société fragmentée, le multiculturalisme en débat*, Paris, Editions la Découverte, 1996, pp. 152-169.

"Il y a trop peu de différence entre la droite et la gauche en matière d'immigration" ("There is too little difference between the Right and the Left in the area of immigration"), in Lucien Bitterlin, *L'antiracisme dans tous ses débats*, Paris, Panoramiques/Le Seuil, 1996, pp. 203-218.