

Laurent FABIUS

**Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development
Former Prime Minister of France**



Born in Paris in 1946 in an art-loving family, His Excellency Mr Laurent Fabius has a distinguished academic background. A graduate of the prestigious *École Normale Supérieure* (ENS), he holds an “agrégation” degree in Modern Literature. He is also an alumnus of the French National Academy of Administration (ENA).

“*Maître des requêtes*” (Senior Judicial Officer for Administrative Law) at the *Conseil d’État* (Supreme Court), he was voted Member of the French National Assembly (Lower House of Parliament) from Seine-Maritime constituency in 1978, and has since been uninterruptedly re-elected to Parliament for the French Socialist Party (PS). He has been Deputy Mayor of the city of Grand Quevilly since 1977.

Member of the “*Bureau national*” (governing body) of the Socialist Party since 1979, he was appointed, under President François Mitterrand’s first tenure (1981-1988) as Cabinet Minister for Budget (1981-1983) and Industry and Research (1983-1984). He subsequently held the office of the Prime Minister of France from 1984 to 1986, the youngest in France’s history.

From 1986 to 1988, he sat in the opposition. After the reelection of President François Mitterrand in 1988 and the following parliamentary elections, he was nominated as the President of the National Assembly in 1988-1992. Regarded as one of the most respected and prominent leaders of the Socialist Party, he held the office of its First Secretary in 1992-1993.

Leader of the Socialist Party’s opposition group in the National Assembly from 1993 to 1997, until the Socialist Party won the 1997 elections, he was again nominated as the President of the National Assembly in 1997-2000. Thereafter, he was appointed Cabinet Minister for Economy, Finance and Industry (2000- 2002) in the Socialist government of Prime Minister Lionel Jospin.

Under the mandate of President François Hollande, Mr Fabius has helmed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2012, which evolved into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development in April 2014, encompassing Commerce and Tourism.

He is the recipient of the honour Grand Croix de l’Ordre National du Mérite.



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