

# NIEDERLANDE

## Minister for Education, Culture and Science

Ministry of Education, Culture  
And Science

### André ROUVOET

Born on 4 January 1962

After completing his secondary education, he went on to study law at the VU University, Amsterdam. He specialised in the philosophy of law and politics, graduating in 1986.

- 1985 - 1986 he was on the staff of the Reformed Political Federation (RPF) parliamentary party, after which he worked for a year as a policy officer for a special education and youth healthcare organisation.
- 1987 he joined the Marnix van St. Aldegonde Foundation (the RPF's think tank), becoming its director in 1989.
- 1994 he joined the House of Representatives, initially representing the RPF.  
Since 2001 he has represented the Christian Union, a party that resulted from a political merger between the RPF and the Reformed Political Association.
- Since 2002 he has led the Christian Union parliamentary party

Besides teaching political science at the Evangelical School of Journalism in Amersfoort, he has also chaired the Dutch Reformed Churches' Youth Welfare Association, and has sat on the board of the Protestant Children's Homes Foundation and the Foundation for the New South Africa, and on the synodal committee of delegates that liaises between the government and the Christian Reformed Churches in the Netherlands.

- 22 Feb. 2007 he was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Youth and Families in the fourth Balkenende government.
- 23 Feb. 2010 he took over responsibility for the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.