

FRANKREICH

Minister of National Education Government spokesman

Ministry of National Education

Luc CHATEL

Born on 15th August 1964 in Bethesda (Maryland, USA)
Married, 4 children

He was born in Bethesda into a family of industrialists from Bayard-sur-Marne, near to Saint-Dizier; his father an admiral and his mother a dance teacher, who later became Chairwoman of the French Dance Federation.

After studying with the Jesuits, he joined the University of Paris I Pantheon Sorbonne where he obtained an honours degree in management science in 1987 and then a post-graduate Master's degree in marketing in 1988. He was successively elected as student representative on the University's Administration council, Chairman of the ADEG, the second largest student union at Paris I University, then Chairman of the junior enterprise "*Sorbonne Conseil*".

In 1988/89, he carried out his military service as a student officer in the Marine national reserve as an aide-de-camp to the admiral commanding the submarine forces and the Strategic Oceanic Forces (FOST).

He began his working life in 1990 with the L'Oreal group where, after a period of six months in sales, he joined the French marketing department as head of products then head of group. In 1995 he went to work in the Human Resources department as recruitment officer then as Director of Human Resources of an entity.

Political career:

He joined the Republican Party in 1991 and became town councillor for Bayard-sur-Marne in 1993. Appointed federal secretary of the Republican Party in Haute-Marne in 1995, he entered Chaumont town council (1996) and became the local delegate for the UDF at the same time.

He was elected during the 1998 regional elections and became vice-chairman in charge of economic development for the Champagne-Ardenne region.

It was in June 2002 that he was elected deputy for the first constituency of Haute-Marne, receiving 59% of the votes. Involved in the UMP from the very start, he was one of the nine editors of the Charter of Values for the newly founded party, of which he became national secretary, member of the political bureau and departmental secretary for the Haute-Marne department.

From March 2004 to June 2007 he was the national spokesman for the UMP party.

On 10th June 2007, with 54% of the votes, he was re-elected deputy for Haute-Marne in the first round.

On 19th June 2007 he was appointed Secretary of State in charge of Consumer Affairs and Tourism at the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Employment.

Elected as mayor of Chaumont (Haute-Marne) in the first round of local elections in March 2008, he was appointed Secretary of State in charge of Industry and Consumer Affairs at the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Employment and Government Spokesman on 18th March 2008.

Suggested for the post by the Prime Minister, Luc Chatel was appointed Minister of National Education by the President of the Republic on Tuesday, 23rd June 2009.