



**POLITICAL  
INTELLIGENCE**

# A short guide to the French presidential candidates

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# The five leading candidates and their proposals



## Emmanuel Macron

La République en Marche  
President

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### Proposals

#### **Energy: Moving away from dependence on fossil fuels**

- Be the first nation to move away from dependence on gas, oil and coal
- Investing in innovation and research in renewable energy, nuclear, batteries, digital

#### **Health: Reduce medical deserts and improve prevention**

- Reduce number of so-called medical “deserts”, areas that do not have a doctor or medical facilities
- Enable elderly people to live at home for as long as they can
- Making retirement homes more humane
- Carry out a “revolution” of prevention

#### **Agribusiness: Investing in research**

- Investing in innovation and research in agriculture



# Marine Le Pen

Rassemblement National  
Member of Parliament for Pas-de-Calais  
President of the Rassemblement National  
(RN) (2018-21)

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## Proposals

### **Energy: Ensuring energy independence to lower French bills**

- Relaunching the nuclear and hydroelectric sectors and investing in the hydrogen sector
- Stop wind projects and gradually dismantle existing wind farms
- Exit the European electricity market
- Reduce VAT on energy products (fuel, oil, gas, and electricity) to 5.5 percent from 20 percent

### **Health: Launch a €20 billion emergency support plan for health**

- Invest in health technologies and repatriate drug manufacturing
- Revalue the salaries of healthcare staff and free up resources by abolishing regional health agencies (ARS) and reducing administrative posts in hospitals to 10 percent
- Stop the closure of beds in public hospitals and maternity wards
- Act against medical deserts through financial incentives for health care providers and increase the number of health centres

- Create emergency facilities for the elderly

- Giving more importance to prevention, introduce school medical check-ups

### **Transport: Renationalise motorways and guarantee access for people with disabilities**

- Renationalise motorways to reduce tolls by 15 percent
- Ensure disabled access to all public places and transport



# Valérie Pécresse

Les Républicains  
President of the Regional Council of Ile-de-France

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## Proposals

### Health: More freedom for hospitals and “Zero Desert” objective

- Develop research into paediatric cancers and introduce leave for parents of children with cancer
- Create 25,000 care worker positions in hospitals
- Pass a five-year health program law
- Develop a “Zero Desert” programme by doubling the number of doctors trained within five years and include fourth year of training in a medical “desert”
- Double resources allocated to prevention policies and make schools and companies the frontline for prevention

### Agribusiness: Improving farm incomes and competitiveness

- Increase farmers’ income by cutting old-age contributions by a third
- Lighten the tax burden on farm transfers and abolish capital gains tax on transfers of farms to young farmers
- Encourage water storage and cover costs incurred by farmers during climatic and health crises

- Reject the zero-pesticide strategy in the absence of an alternative
- Establish full traceability of agricultural and agri-food products and generalized labelling of the origin of products
- Allow farmers to sell carbon credits based on the benefits they provide to the environment

### Transport: Indexing mileage and driving licences for all

- Automatically index mileage allowances to fuel prices while removing the distance limit between home and work (currently 40 km)
- Lower starting age for driving licence to 16, abolish the insurance premium for young people and make it possible to start studying the driving code in secondary school





# Éric Zemmour

La République en Marche  
Political journalist and writer

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## Proposals

### **Energy: Relaunching nuclear power and rationalising the development of renewable energies**

- Remove target to cut the proportion of nuclear power in the electricity mix to 50 percent by 2035 and extend the life of existing nuclear power plants by at least 60 years
- Launch the construction of at least 14 new EPR2 nuclear reactors by 2050
- Relaunch research into the nuclear power of the future, such as fourth-generation reactors (ASTRID programme) or nuclear fusion (international ITER project)
- Stop current and future wind power projects, both onshore and offshore, and redirect public support for wind and solar power to geothermal energy, heat networks or heat pumps
- Invest in insulation of residential and industrial buildings
- Develop the use of electricity and hydrogen in public transport

### **Agribusiness: Local products and generational renewal**

- Increase the share of local products in collective catering
- Prohibit the construction of new supermarkets and shopping areas
- Increase the Young Farmers' Grant and simplify access to land

### **Environment: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions**

- Demand the rapid implementation at European level of the carbon tax at the borders
- Establish a national forestry strategy, including creation of a fund for reforestation and adaptation to climate change
- Develop plastics recycling
- Launch a major land clean-up plan



# Jean-Luc Mélenchon

La France Insoumise

Founder and President of the group La France Insoumise (LFI) in the National Assembly (2017-21)

Member of Parliament for Bouches-du-Rhône

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## Proposals

### **Energy: 100 percent renewable energy and lower consumption**

- Phase out fossil fuels
- Do not extend any nuclear reactor beyond 50 years
- Double wind power and increase installation of solar panels--except on agricultural land or protected areas--and encourage bioenergy
- Repeal the NOME (Nouvelle Organization du Marche de l'Electricite) law, block privatisation of dams and the Hercules plan
- In the short term, freeze energy prices as part of a social emergency law
- Achieve a threefold reduction in primary energy consumption by 2050
- Launch a major renovation project for public buildings and insulate at least 700,000 homes per year

### **Health: Strengthen public hospitals and introduce 100% health insurance**

- Relocate drug production, guarantee the supply of a strategic reserve and control the prices of all health products
- Prohibit the patenting of medicines and equipment needed for an emergency health response and make knowledge-sharing mandatory

### **Abolish fee-for-service pricing, return to the global operating budget**

- Undertake a multi-year recruitment plan for care and medico-social professionals, upgrade professions and incomes and increase capacity of public health settings
- Fight medical "deserts" by recruiting public doctors, abolish so-called numerus clausus limit on number of doctors trained per year, and mobilising liberal and hospital medicine
- Establish "100 percent Social Security" by reimbursing all prescribed healthcare costs and integrating mutual insurance companies into the Social Security system

## More from Jean-Luc Mélenchon

### **Environment: Launch €200 billion investment plan and achieve zero waste**

- Aim for a 65 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
- Adopt framework laws for ecological and democratic planning that coordinate the national and local levels
- Require companies to implement carbon accounting for direct and indirect emissions certified by an approved public body
- Set up regional citizens' assemblies to debate development and investment projects in connection with ecological planning
- Ban single-use plastics immediately, make recycling, composting or incineration compulsory. Develop ways to recycle materials and substituting carbon-based materials
- Abolish programmed obsolescence and extend the legal guarantee periods for products and make the eco-design of products mandatory
- Standardise the durability index of products and make the availability of spare parts mandatory
- Ban advertising of the most greenhouse gas emitting products and services



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