

Short biography of Pierre Moscovici

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Pierre Moscovici was born on 16 September 1957 in Paris. He obtained a degree in Economics and Political Science before completing DEAs (post-graduate diplomas) in Economic Science and Philosophy. He studied at the Paris Institute of Political Studies and joined the French National School of Administration (ENA) in 1982. There he focused on issues relating to the European integration progress, which he had been following closely since the 1970s, and became acquainted with Dominique Strauss-Kahn. When he left ENA in 1984, he joined the Socialist Party (PS). In the same year, he was appointed to the Court of Auditors and joined the Socialist Party's group of experts.

In 1988, he became Technical Adviser, then Policy Officer, to Lionel Jospin in the Ministry of National Education. Two years later, he became Head of Department for the modernisation of public services and financing at the French National Planning Board. That same year he joined the leadership of the Socialist Party as National Secretary for Research and as Treasurer.

Pierre Moscovici first occupied a European post in 1994 when he became a Member of the European Parliament in the parliamentary group of the Party of European Socialists. In 1997, following the Socialist Party's victory in the national elections, he entered the new cohabitation government formed by Lionel Jospin as Minister for European Affairs, a post that he would hold until 2002. Pierre Moscovici was therefore involved in the major European issues of this period, in particular the negotiations for the fifth enlargement of the European Union, the financial negotiations associated with Agenda 2000 and the development of the Lisbon Strategy.

During the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of 2000, Pierre Moscovici's main role was that of coordinator. He chaired the intergovernmental meetings that led to the Nice European Council in December 2000 and the signing of the Treaty of Nice in February 2001. He witnessed the difficulties in Franco-German relations during this period and saw his preparatory work for institutional reforms revised during the final negotiations in Nice.

In 2002, Pierre Moscovici represented the French Government on the Convention on the Future of Europe until he was replaced by Dominique de Villepin following the formation of a new government. He was fully in support of the method of the Convention and the resulting draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe. Despite the subsequent modifications made to the draft Treaty by the Heads of State or Government of the 25 Member States, Pierre Moscovici defended the Constitutional Treaty and actively campaigned for the 'Yes' vote within the Socialist Party and in France in the run-up to the referendum held on 29 May 2005.

In June 2004, Pierre Moscovici was once again appointed to the European Parliament as Vice-President until June 2007. He was a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and was Parliament's rapporteur on the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union. During this time he was also President of the European Movement France for two years, from 2005 to 2006. In 2007, he became a Member of the French National Assembly in the fourth constituency of the Doubs *département*.