

Contenders for French Socialist crown



Ségolène Royal, 53:

Former education, family and environment minister – seen as family-loving mother and defender of moral values

- Proposes boot camps for unruly teenagers and greater freedom for parents to choose their children's schools

- Blames controversial 35-hour work week for erosion of weakest workers' rights**

- Believes companies that have received state aid should be barred from shifting jobs abroad

- Wants airline tax on carbon emissions**



Dominique Strauss-Kahn, 57:

Former finance minister – portrays himself as "radical reformist"

- Proposes using tax breaks to encourage firms to hire people on long-term basis

- Supports free healthcare until end of compulsory schooling**

- Wants all young people to undergo compulsory six-month period of civil service

- Promotes legal recognition of same-sex marriages and gay couples' right to adopt children**



Laurent Fabius, 60:

Former prime minister – espouses hard-left, anti-liberal creed

- Proposes extending 35-hour week throughout French industry and raising minimum wage to 1,500 euros per month

- Spearheaded "no" campaign against treaty on European Constitution, opposes Turkish entry into EU**

- Wants to renationalise electricity giant **EDF**

- Wants to appoint as many women as men in government**

**CSA institute poll of sample of electors who normally vote Socialist, conducted Nov 12*