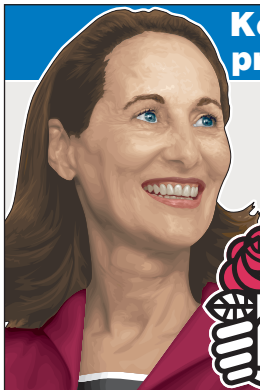


# Key issues in French presidential election



**Segolene Royal, 53:**  
Socialist party candidate

**Francois Bayrou, 55:**  
Centrist head of UDF

**Nicolas Sarkozy, 52:**  
Conservative UMP party

## ECONOMY, TAXES

■ Cut record national debt by giving tax breaks for exporters and firms creating jobs

■ Wipe out government deficit within three years. 20% of public contracts to small businesses

■ Cut debt, 50% ceiling on personal tax, scrap inheritance tax except for super-rich. Increase VAT

## JOBS, WAGES

■ Boost minimum wage by 20% to 1,500 EUR per month. 90% of salary for year after losing job

■ Allow companies to hire two staff without social charges. No tax on overtime over 35 hours

■ Scrap charges on overtime, bypass 35-hour working week to allow people to work more

## HEALTH, PENSIONS

■ Free health care for young (16-25), increase state pension by 5%, reform generous public company schemes

■ Introduce new points-based pension system to give bigger pensions to those who work longer. Raise minimum pensions

■ Increase medical fees. Reform pension scheme that enables state employees to retire early on full pension

## IMMIGRATION, LAW AND ORDER

■ Restore right to citizenship after 10 years of residency. Military-style training camps for young offenders

■ Help poor countries encourage their populations to stay put. Minimum terms for repeat offenders

■ Create "ministry of immigration and national identity." Cap immigration. Community service for young offenders

## EUROPEAN UNION, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

■ New constitutional treaty put to referendum. In favour of Turkey joining EU. Brussels-led Middle East peace initiative. Maintain "critical" stance towards U.S. over Iraq

■ New referendum, but on "more transparent" treaty. Privileged partnership for Turkey rather than full membership. Resist U.S. pressure on France

■ No new referendum – submit stripped-down treaty to parliament. Opposes Turkey joining EU. Wants friendship with Washington, but says U.S. should take criticism

## COST OF POLICIES

■ 35-63 billion EUR

■ 21-28 billion EUR

■ 32-74 billion EUR