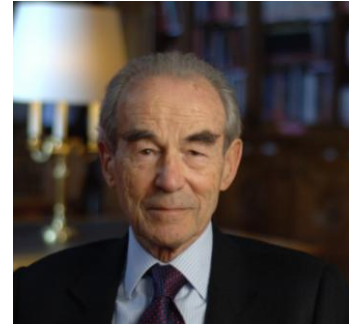


Robert Badinter

Former French Minister of Justice, Keeper of the Seals



Born in Paris, March the 30th, 1928

Married to Elisabeth BADINTER, Ph. D, professor of philosophy at the famous Ecole Polytechnique, author of very successful essays on modern family relations, some of them being translated in American.

Three children.

Education

After his B.A. (Sorbonne - Paris, 1947) and his L.L.B. degree (Paris School of Law, 1948), Robert BADINTER was granted a fellowship by the French Government to study in the U.S. He obtained his A.M. degree in Columbia University in 1949.

Back to France, he accomplished his L.L.D., in Paris-School of Law, with a dissertation in comparative law « internal conflicts of laws in the U.S. law of torts ». In 1965, he obtained the highest degree in French Law, the « agrégation de Droit », and was appointed Professor of Law in 1966.

Professional career

In 1951, Robert BADINTER joined the Paris Bar. He practiced law in the reputed firm he created, known as « Badinter, Bredin and partners » till 1981.

In the Academic field, Robert BADINTER was successfully appointed as Professor of law in the Universities of Dijon, Besançon, Amiens and, in 1974, the prestigious Paris I University (Panthéon - Sorbonne). He remained an active member of Paris I University till 1994, when he was called to the statute of « Professor Emeritus ».

Public life

In June 1981, after François Mitterrand had become President of the Republic, Robert BADINTER was appointed Minister of Justice, Keeper of the Seals. He remained in office till February 1986. During the period, Robert BADINTER led an intense action to promote civil liberties in French Justice. He presented and supported in Parliament the abolition of death penalty (1981), the suppression of the State Security Court (1981), the Military Courts (1982), the reenforcement of Habeas Corpus (1983) together with new rights for the victims of crime. He was also the President of the Commission which prepared the text of the New French Penal Code adopted in 1992 to replace the old Napoleone Code.

In March 1986, Robert BADINTER was appointed President of the Constitutional Council of the French Republic, for a period of nine years. This prestigious body of nine members assumes, among other duties, constitutional adjudication, and is the closest equivalent in France of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1991, Robert BADINTER was appointed by the Council of Ministers of the European Community as a member of the Arbitration Commission of the peace conference on the former Yugoslavia. He was elected as President of the Commission by the four other members, all Presidents of Constitutional Courts in the E.C.

The Arbitration Commission has rendered eleven advices on « major legal questions » arisen by the split of the Yugoslav Federation.

From 1989, Robert BADINTER has been called for expertise work on constitutional problems in the new democracies in Central and Easter Europe, notably in the former U.R.S.S., Russia, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Rumania, Bulgaria.

In the last years, Robert BADINTER has devoted much of this time and energy to convince European states, notably in Eastern Europe, to call on mediation and arbitration to settle peacefully conflicts between states. In this respect, Robert BADINTER is the main inspirer and promoter of the Stockholm Convention of 1992, creating the « Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the O.S.C.E. », which has been signed by 31 states, and ratified by 23, up to now. The court is located in Geneva. Robert BADINTER has been elected as President of the Court for six years. He was President of the Court until September 2013.

In October 1995, Robert BADINTER has been elected for nine years to the French Senate, by the département des Hauts de Seine, in the Paris region.

Publications

Apart from various Academic contributions and articles on justice and law, Robert BADINTER is the author of :

« **L'Exécution** », Grasset 1973

« **Libertés, Libertés** », Gallimard 1975

« **Condorcet, an intellectual in politics** », in collaboration with Elisabeth Badinter, Fayard 1988

« **Free and equals, the emancipation of the jews (1789-1791)** », Fayard 1989

« **Another justice** » Fayard 1990

« **The Republican Prison (1873-1914)** », Fayard 1993

« **C.3.3.** » (with a foreword on « **Oscar Wilde and justice** »), Actes Sud 1995

« **Ordinary antisemitism : Vichy and the jewish lawyers** » (1940-1944), Fayard 1996

« **The Abolition** », Fayard 2000

« **An European Constitution** », Fayard 2002