

## Biographies

### Uniting for diversity: how the French Presidency can promote equality in the EU



**Helena Dalli**  
Commissioner for Equality  
European Commission

Dalli holds a PhD in Political Sociology from the University of Nottingham, and lectures in Economic and Political Sociology, Public Policy and Sociology of Law at the University of Malta.

In 1996, Dalli was elected to the Parliament of Malta and appointed Parliamentary Secretary for Women's Rights in the Office of the Prime Minister. She was re-elected during the five subsequent elections, making her the second most elected woman in Maltese political history.

During her two-year tenure, she put forward a Childcare Bill to provide for regulations of childcare services, and took care of the drafting of the Gender Equality Bill. Dalli also launched Malta's first white paper on domestic violence.

She presented to the Maltese Parliament a Bill to introduce marriage equality. Thanks to Dalli's work in the equality sector, Malta has become the country affording the best legal protection and equality for LGBTIQ people, retaining the top spot of the ILGA-Europe country index for four consecutive years.

In 2016, Dalli was the first Maltese nominee and winner of the European Diversity Award for her work in human rights and equality.

In 2019, Dalli was presented, on behalf of Malta, with the Diversa Internacional award by the Spanish Association of Lawyers and Lawyers Against Hate Crimes, in recognition of her work for equality on both the domestic and international fronts.

In 2021, Dalli was presented an award by the Spanish Government in recognition of the robustness of the EU LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025. She received an award on behalf of the European Commission from PROUD for the same strategy.



**Élisabeth Moreno**  
Minister Delegate for Gender Equality, Diversity and Equal Opportunities, France

A French-Cape Verdean businesswoman and politician who has been serving as Minister Delegate for Gender Equality, Diversity and Equal Opportunities at the Prime Minister's Office in the government of Prime Minister Jean Castex since 2020.

Under Moreno's leadership, the French government successfully introduced a bill intended to protect victims of domestic violence.

Her career prior to politics has included growing a company in the construction sector that she created with her husband, four years at France Telecom, and later at Dell. In 2006 she obtained an Executive MB. Moreno has also worked as vice-president and managing director for Hewlett-Packard in South Africa from 2019 until 2020 and as president of Lenovo France from 2017 until 2019.