

H.E. Michel Vauzelle

Member

National Assembly, France

President

Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur Region, France

Michel Vauzelle was born on August 15, 1944 in Montélimar (Drôme). His parents were from Provence. He carried out his secondary education at St. Joseph College in Lyon and continued his university studies in Paris obtaining a law degree and a diploma from the Institute of Political Studies. In 1967, as a lawyer at the Paris Bar, he was the First Secretary of the Conference of Lawyers in the Court of Paris.

From 1969 to 1972, he was the official representative of the office of the Prime Minister, Mr Jacques CHABANDELMAS. In 1972 and 1973, he was a member of the Finance Section of the Economical and Social Council. In 1976, he joined the Socialist Party in Arles (Bouches-du-Rhone). In 1977, he was elected as Municipal Councillor of Arles and re-elected in 1983, 1989 and 1995 when he became the mayor of Arles.

From 1978 to 1981, he was the national delegate for the Socialist Party for Justice and Freedom. In 1981, he was appointed as the deputy director of the office of François MITTERRAND, the presidential candidate of the Republic. From 1981 to 1986, he was the spokesman for the presidency of the Republic. In 1985, he was appointed as a prefect (ungraded). On 16 March 1986, he was elected as the socialist Member of Parliament for the Bouchesdu- Rhone region and re-elected on June 12, 1988.

In 1989, he was elected as the president of the Commission for Foreign Affairs of the National Assembly. He met with Saddam Hussein just before the outbreak of the Gulf War and went to Moscow during the putsch of 1991 to meet with Mr GORBACHEV and Mr YELTSIN.

In 1992 and 1993, he was the Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Justice, and led the reform of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In 1992, he was elected as the General Counsel of Arles and Vice-President of the General Council of the Bouches-du-Rhone. In June 1995 he was elected as the Mayor of Arles. In the legislative elections, he was elected as the MP for the 16th constituency of the Bouches-du-Rhone. He is a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly. He is also the Chairman of the Rhin-Rhone parliamentary mission.

From 1982 to 1986, he was the president of the National Photography School in Arles of which he is one of the founders. In March 1998 he was elected as the president of the Provence- Alpes-Cote d'Azur Region. According to the law project on nonoverlapping mandates, he resigned from his tenure as mayor.

He was elected by the Municipal Council of Arles as the second Deputy Mayor. On March 28, 2004, he was re-elected as the President of the Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur Region. Since 1998, he chairs the Regional Observatory of Health. Since 2000, he is the president of the Society of the Provence Canal.

On 17 June 2007, he was elected as the MP of the 16th constituency of the Bouches-du-Rhone. In July 2007, Michel Vauzelle was elected as the president of the Intermediterranean Commission of the CPMR in Grenada. From 1 January to 30 June 2000, he assumed the first presidency of the Alpes-Mediterranean Euro-region.

He is Member of Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean. He is the author of a Report about Mediterranean requested by the French President (Oct. 2013).