

Board of **Administrators**

FONDATION
croix-rouge française

| Pour la recherche humanitaire et sociale



Founding Members



Caroline CROSS - President

*General Doctor
President of the French Red Cross*

Caroline Cross has been involved with the French Red Cross in Annecy as a volunteer since 1987, working as a first-aid worker, trainer, national medical instructor and regional doctor. In 1997, she became regional president of Haute-Savoie before joining the association's board of directors in 2003.

She became national vice-president of the French Red Cross alongside Professor Jean-François Mattei in 2004, then Professor Jean-Jacques Eledjam in 2013, which gave her a 360° view of the institution. Since 2017, Caroline Cross has been regional president for Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes for the association.

A general practitioner by training, Caroline Cross began her career in 1992 at Annecy Hospital. Passionate about emergency medicine and extreme environments, she naturally became involved with the SMUR/SAMU (mobile emergency and resuscitation service) and helicopter rescue services.

In 2000, she joined the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a doctor and from 2013 to 2023 held international positions as Director of Staff Health and Well-being at the Geneva-based organisation, always guided by human issues and a strong presence in the field.

She succeeds Philippe Da Costa, elected in 2021, whose term of office was marked by the roll-out of the 'Resilience 2030' strategy, which aims to make the association a major player in crisis management, in particular by strengthening its education and prevention initiatives.

Cécile APTEL

*Professor of International Criminal Law
Deputy Director of the United Nations Institute for
Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) in Geneva*



Professor Cécile Aptel is an international expert in the fields of peace and security, human rights and criminal responsibility. She has over 20 years' experience in managing judicial, legal and political matters for the UN, several international courts, think tanks and NGOs, both in the field and at headquarters. She currently holds the post of Deputy Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), based in Geneva.

She helped establish the United Nations International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda, where she worked for 10 years in various legal and political roles and drafted several of the first key judgments, including the first on genocide. She was also directly involved in the establishment of the War Crimes Chamber of the State Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, and led the establishment of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism on Syria. She has led and participated in various international efforts aimed at promoting criminal accountability for international crimes, gross human rights violations and terrorism, notably at the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission in Lebanon, the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services and the International Centre for Transitional Justice. She served as the principal legal adviser to successive United Nations High Commissioners for Human Rights, led the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' global work on the rule of law and democracy, and provided advice on criminal accountability and judicial reform in several countries.

She served as Director of Policy, Strategy and Knowledge at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, where she also held the post of Acting Under-Secretary General for Partnerships.

Professor Aptel has taught international law and child protection at Harvard's Fletcher School, the University of Pretoria and the University of Oxford. She was awarded the Jennings Randolph Senior Fellowship by the United States Institute of Peace. She is the author of over 30 publications: her recent work focuses on children's rights, notably a forthcoming book entitled 'International Criminal Courts, Atrocity Crimes and Children'. She holds a PhD in law from the University of Geneva, and master's degrees from the College of Europe in Bruges, Trinity College Dublin and the IEP in Aix-en-Provence.



Anne LEBRETON

Regional Vice-President for Ile-de-France at the French Red Cross

Former elected representative in Paris

Born in Brest to a Breton father and an American mother, she grew up in Paris, where she still lives. After an initial career in marketing in the United States, France and England, she decided at the age of 25 to return to education. She obtained her baccalaureate as an external candidate, then went on to

She studied history, Hebrew and Arabic at the Sorbonne and INALCO, which led to extended stays in Israel and Egypt.

A mother of four, she devoted herself to their upbringing whilst also getting involved in voluntary work. In particular, she worked at La Cimade to defend the rights of migrant women who were victims of violence, and campaigned on issues relating to education, poverty and social exclusion.

In 2011, she entered politics. As Deputy Mayor of Paris's 4th arrondissement until 2020, she was responsible for social exclusion and the elderly. In 2017, she was part of the team of spokespersons for Emmanuel Macron's presidential campaign. Since 2023, she has been President of the Île-de-France region for the French Red Cross.

Marc VANESSON - Secrétaire

Director of Program Development at the French Red Cross

Marc Vannesson is Director of Programme Development at the French Red Cross. He is also Director of Education, Prevention and Family Relations at the Association. The Programmes Department is responsible for the roll-out of voluntary activities, as well as two branches of the French Red Cross: Child Protection and Combating Social Exclusion.



In 2015, together with a number of individuals committed to supporting young people, he founded "VersLeHaut", France's first think tank dedicated to young people and education, where he served as Executive Director until 2021. He had previously worked in the communications sector and in politics.

He is a graduate of Sciences Po Paris and studied political science at the University of Tübingen (Germany). He is the author of several publications on educational challenges, notably **We Are All Educators! What About You? A Plea for an Educating Society** (Bayard, 2017); **Manifesto for Corporate Responsibility in Education**; **Supporting Families: The Best Social Investment**...

Qualified individuals



Fatima BELLAREDJ

*General Secretary of the General Confederation
of SCOPs and SCICs*

A graduate in Economics, Fatima Bellaredj has been involved in the co-operative movement for over 25 years. In 1998, she joined a SCOP specialising in the support and evaluation of public policy, becoming its manager at the age of 32. Passionate about and committed to social innovation, in 2007 she launched the first regional incubator, Alter'Incub, within the Languedoc-Roussillon Regional Union of SCOPs, of which she became director in 2014.

Committed to economic development, Fatima Bellaredj was awarded the Social Commitment Prize (Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award) in 2014 for the Mediterranean region and was appointed a Knight of the National Order of Merit in 2017. Fatima Bellaredj joined the CG Scop in October 2018 as General Delegate. Her responsibilities include internal and external representation, lobbying and the implementation of the development plan, in close collaboration with the elected bodies (the Executive Committee and the National Management).

Among her roles, she is Chair of the Labo de l'ESS, Vice-Chair of Coop FR, Chair of the Gender Equality Commission of the Higher Council for the Social and Solidarity Economy (CSESS), and Secretary-General of the ESS France Executive Committee. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Higher Council for Cooperation (CSC) and a director of Crédit Coopératif.

In July 2025, Fatima Bellaredj was appointed to the rank of Knight in the National Order of the Legion of Honour.

François GAUTHEY - Trésorier

Engineer (Ecole Polytechnique – Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées)

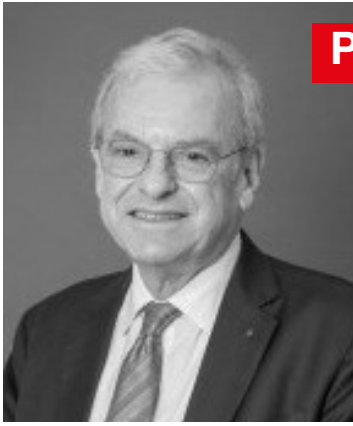
Partner at Priscus Finance



An engineer by training (École Polytechnique and École des Ponts et Chaussées), François GAUTHEY has devoted most of his career to infrastructure and transport. He held senior positions within the public sector: Directorate of the Treasury at the Ministry of Finance (1990–1993), Office of the Minister of Finance (1993–1995), Adviser to the Prime Minister responsible for Public Works, Housing and Transport (2002–2004), Chief of Staff to the Minister for Transport (2004–2005), and Chief of Staff to the Minister for Higher Education and Research (2005–2006). He has also held senior positions in various public and private companies in this sector: Director at Aéroports de Paris (ADP, 1995–2002), Chief Executive of Voies Navigables de France (2006–2007), Chief Executive of Sanef (Sanef and SAPN motorway networks, 2007–2015), Deputy Chief Executive of Getlink and Chief Executive of Eurotunnel (2015–2020).

He is currently a Partner at Priscus Finance.

François GAUTHEY also holds an MBA from the Collège des Ingénieurs, a postgraduate diploma (DEA) in Strategy, and is a Knight of the Legion of Honour.



Patrice PAOLI

Diplomat

After studying political science (graduating from the IEP Paris with a degree in 'Public Law' in 1977) and Oriental languages (Classical Arabic and Persian, graduating from INALCO with a degree in Classical Arabic in 1978), Patrice Paoli joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in January 1979 via the 'Orient' competitive examination, specialising in Arabic and Persian as his Oriental languages.

He undertook his national service as an Arabic-speaking VSNA at the French Embassy in Sana'a (Arab Republic of Yemen) in 1979–1980, and subsequently embarked on a career focused on issues relating to the North Africa and Middle East region: initially responsible for monitoring the countries of the Arabian Peninsula within the North Africa and Middle East Directorate (1981–1983), he then moved to Amman as First Secretary (1983–1987), before being appointed to the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York, where he was responsible for monitoring North Africa and Middle East (ANMO) issues, Afghanistan and Cyprus (1987–1989). He was then appointed to the private office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Roland Dumas, to oversee North Africa and the Middle East and UN affairs, until March 1993.

He was appointed Consul-General in Boston (1993–1995), to indulge his other passion: the United States, where he had spent several years of his childhood and begun his schooling at an American state school. He returned to the Middle East as First Secretary in Cairo (1995–1999), then as Ambassador to Kuwait (1999–2002). He returned to Paris (and to the Americas) as Deputy Director for the Americas and the Caribbean following his first posting as Ambassador (2002–2005).

Then came a fresh start in the Middle East, as ambassador to the United Arab Emirates from 2005 to 2008 (during which he negotiated the Louvre Abu Dhabi project), followed by a return to Paris as director for North Africa and the Middle East from 2008 to 2012 (the Arab Spring), before returning to the Middle East as ambassador to Lebanon (2012–2015).

On his return from Beirut in July 2015, he was appointed Director of the Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS), responsible for crisis management, comprising two main areas: the protection of French nationals abroad and humanitarian action. At that time, the CDCS was also responsible for providing support to victims following the terrorist attacks (13 November 2015 in Saint-Denis and Paris, and 14 July 2016 in Nice).

In August 2018, he was appointed ambassador to Cuba, where he served for four years (during the Covid pandemic), before returning to Paris in September 2022 to take up the post of Arabic-language spokesperson for the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, a role he held until his retirement at the end of December 2023.

Philippe RYFMAN

*Honorary professor and associate researcher in the Department of Political Science and at the European Centre for Sociology and Political Science at the Sorbonne (CESSP-Sorbonne),
University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne.*



Until July 2013, Philippe Ryfman coordinated the teaching programme for the NGO and Humanitarian Studies Department, as well as the programme's Current Affairs Forums. He is also a member of the Paris Bar, specialising in the law governing associations and foundations. He directed the DESS and subsequently the Master's programme in 'International Cooperation, Humanitarian Action and Development Policy' (CIAHPD) at the University of Paris 1. He currently teaches, or has taught, other courses at this university, as well as at various French institutions (Évry, INALCO, IEP) and abroad (Geneva and Fribourg, for example). He also leads continuing professional development sessions and lecture series for research centres, private university institutes, government departments, businesses, associations and foundations.

A member of the editorial board of the journal *Humanitaire* and the scientific council of *Questions internationales*, he wrote the 'Civil Society' column for *Le Monde Économie* between 2005 and 2008. He continues to publish articles and opinion pieces regularly in various print and online media (such as the *Huffington Post*) and is a regular contributor to broadcast media (including France Culture, RFI and France 24).

As a consultant to non-governmental and intergovernmental organisations, he has taken part in various programme evaluations and fact-finding missions. Together with the Director-General of the Mérieux Foundation and the former President of the French Red Cross, he has co-organised the Forum Espace humanitaire (FEH) since 2009, which brings together the leaders of the main French non-governmental organisations involved in international solidarity (NGOs and the Red Cross) in the humanitarian field for a closed, high-level meeting held approximately every 18 months in Annecy.

He served as Secretary-General of the Friends of Médecins du Monde Foundation, as a member of the Board of Directors of the NGO Primo Levi, and on the Advisory Council on Professional Ethics of the Comité de la Charte. For nine years (until June 2013), he sat on the Board of Directors of the NGO ACF-F. He is also a member of the International Solidarity Committee of the Fondation de France and of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee of the NGO Électriciens sans Frontières (ESF). From January 2012 to December 2013, he chaired and led the Sponsorship Committee/Projects Committee of the Paris Bar Solidarity Endowment Fund (established by the Paris Bar Association). Finally, he works – within various expert groups – on forward-looking scenarios for humanitarian action over the coming decade.

Institutionnal Partners



**Institut de Recherche pour le
Développement (IRD)**

Represented by **Alexandre MAGAT**
*Head of Multilateral Affairs, International Partners and
Donors*

A graduate in public affairs from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux and Cardiff University as part of a Franco-British programme, Alexandre MAGAT has been working in the field of international affairs for nearly 10 years.

In 2017, after beginning his career as an aide to Alain Juppé at Bordeaux City Hall, he joined the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, where he served as Political and Communications Officer at the French Embassy in Djibouti.

He subsequently joined the International Relations Department of Bordeaux Métropole, where he implemented several international programmes, before moving to the office of the President and Mayor of Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole, where he was entrusted with preparing an ambitious campaign to mobilise the region for the New Africa–France Summit 2022.

Following the Summit, Alexandre MAGAT joined the French Embassy in Madagascar, where he served as Cooperation Attaché. There, he oversaw French official development assistance in the country and led the embassy's cooperation activities in the field of governance. In 2025, after three years posted abroad, he returned to the headquarters of the French National Research Institute for Development (IRD) and took up the post of Head of the International Partners and Donors Department.

École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique (EHESP)

Represented by **Pierre-Antoine CHAUVIN**
PhD in Sociology
Lecturer and researcher in social policy



A graduate of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Rennes, Pierre-Antoine Chauvin holds a PhD in sociology and demography from the National Institute for Demographic Studies (INED).

Between 2020 and 2023, he undertook postdoctoral research at the Office for the Fight against Exclusion within the Directorate for Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics (Drees).

Recruited in 2023 by the EHESP, he teaches on the training programmes for trainee health and social services inspectors (IASS) and trainee directors of health, social and medico-social establishments (DESSMS).

His research focuses in particular on local public action, social housing policies and social inequalities in health.

In this capacity, he has been a member since 2024 of the scientific advisory committee on regional policy for the reduction of social and health inequalities at the Brittany Regional Health Agency (ARS).



École des Hautes Études en Science Sociales (EHESS)

Represented by **Anne RASMUSSEN**
Historian, Director of Studies at EHESS
Director of the Alexandre Koyré Centre

From the perspective of the social history of science, Anne Rasmussen's research focuses on the experiences of individuals and groups involved in the production, handling and circulation of knowledge. Her research has been organised around three thematic areas – nation, war and biomedicine. It began with a study, carried out as part of her PhD, on the role of scholarly knowledge in understanding the tension between the national and the international at the time of the emergence of 'nation-based sciences' in the second half of the nineteenth century. The research then turned to war – in particular, the First World War – as a lens through which to examine extreme situations where the nature of societies' ties to territorial and political entities is called into question, along with the forms of belonging, integration or exclusion, the latter becoming a 'normal' state of affairs in times of conflict.

Finally, this research has focused on the biomedical sphere, where the social and political implications of knowledge are particularly acute. From 2001 to 2017, within a social sciences and humanities department attached to a faculty of medicine, at the University of Strasbourg, she conducted research within collaborative frameworks on the trajectories of 'therapeutic agents' – material devices designed to improve health – in order to observe the links that are forged around their action in different spheres, from the clinic to the laboratory, and from industry to consumption. Another line of research, pursued as part of a multi-year seminar, focused on the construction of health as a public issue, involving the translation of social problems into the language of healthcare.

Associates



Françoise FROMAGEAU - Vice-Presidente

Geriatrician

Regional Deputy Chair for Brittany of the French Red Cross

Chair of MONALISA (National Campaign against the Isolation of the Elderly)

A doctor in Pont-l'Abbé, Brittany, since 1980, Françoise Fromageau has a long history of involvement with the Red Cross, first locally in Pont-l'Abbé, where she chaired the local branch for 12 years, then at the Finistère departmental level, and finally at the Brittany regional level, where she has been chair since March 2017.

In 2004, she was elected as a national director of the French Red Cross. In 2013, she became its national secretary, serving as chair of the Statutes and Volunteering Committee, a post she held until 2017.

Appointed in December 2013 to the High Council for Community Life, she is chair of the MONALISA association (National Mobilisation against the Isolation of the Elderly), a member of the National Council for the Fight against Exclusion and a member of the board of directors of ANSA (National Agency for Active Solidarity).

Françoise Fromageau was made a Knight of the Order of Merit (2009) and a Knight of the Legion of Honour (2015).

Government commissioner



Sophie ELIZEON

*Prefect responsible for evaluation at the CSATE
Higher Council for Territorial Support and Evaluation*

A graduate of the Pau Business School and holder of a Master's degree in sociology applied to local development from the University of Lyon 2 (Louis Lumière), Sophie Elizéon chose at a very early stage to dedicate herself to supporting the most vulnerable members of society. She has therefore held senior positions in the fields of gender equality, equal opportunities and the fight against discrimination. Originally from Réunion, she served notably as a project manager for urban policy, then as regional delegate for women's rights and equality in Réunion before joining the prefectural service. Initially serving as deputy prefect for equal opportunities to the Prefect of the Nord department (2015–2017), she subsequently held the post of district prefect in the Territoire de Belfort from 2017 to 2019, and then in the Aude department from 2019 to 2021.

On 8 March 2021, she was appointed Interministerial Delegate for the Fight against Racism, Anti-Semitism and Anti-LGBT Hatred (DILCRAH). She held this post for two years before returning to the role of departmental prefect in Ardèche. On 25 August 2025, she joined the Ministry of the Interior's Higher Council for Territorial Support and Evaluation as an evaluating prefect.