

**President of the Senate
Alain Poher**

Born in 1909 in Ablon-sur-Seine, Alain Poher was elected to the Senate in 1946. He has held numerous offices, notably secretary of state for the budget (1948-50), chairman of the Common Market Commission (1955-57), secretary of state for the armed forces (navy) (1957-58), and president of the European Parliament (1966-69).

Mr. Poher has been president of the senate since 1968. In that capacity, as second in charge, he assumed the duties of president of the republic at the departure of General de Gaulle in 1969 and at the death of Georges Pompidou in 1974. Mr. Poher stood as a candidate for the presidency in 1969. Member of the Centrist Union, he was re-elected to the senate in 1990.

He is married and has one daughter.