Convention Citoyenne pour le Climat

CITIZENS' CLIMATE CONVENTION

PRESENTATION FILE

What is the Citizens' Climate Convention?

1 question

How can we reduce greenhouse gases by **at least 40% by 2030** (compared with 1990), with social justice in mind?

1 goal

To put forward proposals
to be submitted "without filter"
- to a referendum
- to a Parliamentary vote
- or to direct regulatory application

1 calendar

Past sessions:
4, 5, 6 October
25, 26, 27 October
15, 16, 17 November
10, 11, 12 January
7-8-9 February
6-7-8 March

Future session :
19-20-21 June

150 members

Representing the diversity found in French society

Selected at random by the random generation of telephone numbers

Climate and democracy will be saved together

The Citizens' Climate Convention offers a response to two urgent issues: democracy and the climate. The 'Gilet Jaune' (Yellow vest) movement, climate marches, and the 'Affaire du Siècle' (Case of the century) campaign are all proof of the need to address these two crises at the same time: the climate and democracy will be saved together.

It is also the unique opportunity of placing citizens once more at the heart of public decision-making by giving them power over a new common destiny. All French citizens are concerned by this initiative which aims to reinvent how public policies are created by breathing new democratic life into the process. In Ireland, abortion was legalised after a convention was agreed on the topic; Texas has become a nationwide leader in wind farming following works resulting from a convention on energy policy.

We consider that this unprecedented experience can provide solutions to the common challenge presented by the climate crisis, which France intends to react to as one of the first European countries to set itself the target of carbon neutrality by 2050. Meeting this target involves structuring measures and accompanying policies to ensure a just transition. This is the "social justice mindset" which the Prime Minister considers so important in the mission statement giving life to the Citizens' Climate Convention and is one of the conditions for our society to rally around the changes that we need to make.

All conditions are now satisfied to ensure that this initiative is carried out and is successful. Our fellow citizens have never before been so mobilised on the climate emergency and the call for participation in public life has rarely been answered to the same degree.

The President of the Republic and the Government themselves are fully committed to the process, pledging to submit any regulatory, legislative and/or referendum proposals forwarded by the Convention "without filter", and to give its members the ability to assess the response given to such proposals.

We therefore have great confidence that this Convention can and must launch a new democratic era in France, in which citizens are actors and bearers of solutions to respond to the climate and social emergencies.

Thierry Pech et Laurence Tubiana

Co-Chairs of the Governance Committee

Answering French citizens' expectations

This Convention meets the French people's expectations of **taking a step further and accelerating progress towards combatting climate change and affording more importance to citizen participation in public decision-making**.

The 'Gilet Jaune' movement, climate marches, and the 'Affaire du Siècle' campaign are all proof of the necessity of handling these two crises during a time in which combatting climate change is synonymous with social justice and climate justice.

On 25 April 2019, **the President of the Republic** announced the creation of this Citizens' Convention and **committed to ensuring that the proposals contained in the Convention were submitted, "without filter", to either a Parliamentary vote, a referendum, or for direct regulatory application**.

An unprecedented and ambitious initiative

While there is a growing consensus that actions for the climate need to be stepped up, a consensus on the solutions and means of action is still to be determined. This is the challenge faced by the Citizens' Convention.

This convention was set up on **4, 5 and 6 October 2019 and will meet** at the Palais d'Iéna - ESEC's headquarters (Economic Social and Environmental Council) - **six times**.

Its purpose is to **set out a serious of anti-climate change measures in order to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030 (compared with 1990), with social justice in mind**. It may address issues relating to energy savings, the thermal renovation of homes, agriculture, mobility, ecological tax and any other lever for action that it deems relevant.

The Citizens' Convention will provide the results of its works at the end of January in the form of legislative or regulatory measures detailed in a public report submitted to the President of the Republic and the Government. Among these measures, it will pinpoint those which, in its opinion, are subject to direct regulatory application, those which should be submitted to the Parliament and, lastly, those which should be subjected to a referendum, i.e. the three options cited by the President of the Republic himself.

The Government will then publicly respond to the proposals and publish a provisional timetable for implementation of these proposals. **The 150 members will be able to collectively react to these announcements during an ultimate day on the date of their choice**.

Representative citizens

The **150 Convention members** were selected at random based on the **generation of telephone numbers** (85% mobile numbers and 15% landlines).

In order to ensure a "descriptive representation" of the French population within the Convention, over 255,000 phone numbers were draws at random by Harris Interactive, under the supervision of a bailiff, on Thursday, 8 August 2019; Harris Interactive then contacted all of these numbers starting on Monday, 26 August.

This approach was well-received by those contacted: among those having picked up their phone and having been explained the idea of the Convention, 30% gave oral consent, 35% stated that they were interested in the idea but requested more time to think/organise, 35% refused for various reasons, the main one being the significant time required by the task.

The Governance Committee set out 6 criteria:

- **Gender**: reflecting the reality of French society.
- **Age**: 6 age groups, in proportion to the age pyramid.
- **Level of qualification**: 6 levels, to reflect the French population's level of qualification.
- **Socio-professional circumstances** diversity of socio-professional categories within the French population.
- **Type of territory**: based on the Insee's categories (major urban centres, outer suburbs, rural municipalities, priority urban neighbourhoods, etc.).
- **Geographical area**: The Convention also illustrates how the French population is distributed according to region and in overseas territories.

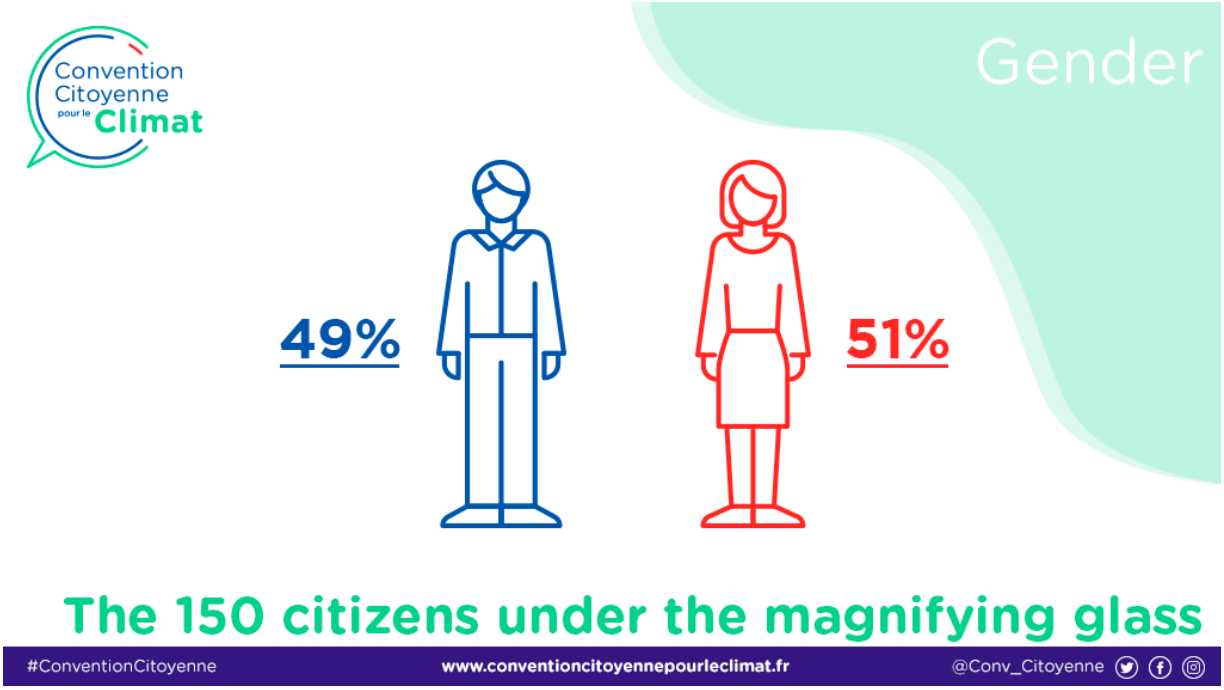
The 150 citizens involved received compensation, based on the model used for Criminal Court jurors, i.e. 86.04 per day, (1,462 for the entire process), as well as an indemnity for loss of professional income for those present during their working hours (10,03 per hour). Transport, accommodation and catering costs are also covered, and an indemnity for childcare was put in place (on the basis of 18/hour, including employer contributions, to enable parents - and especially single parents - to take part in the works).

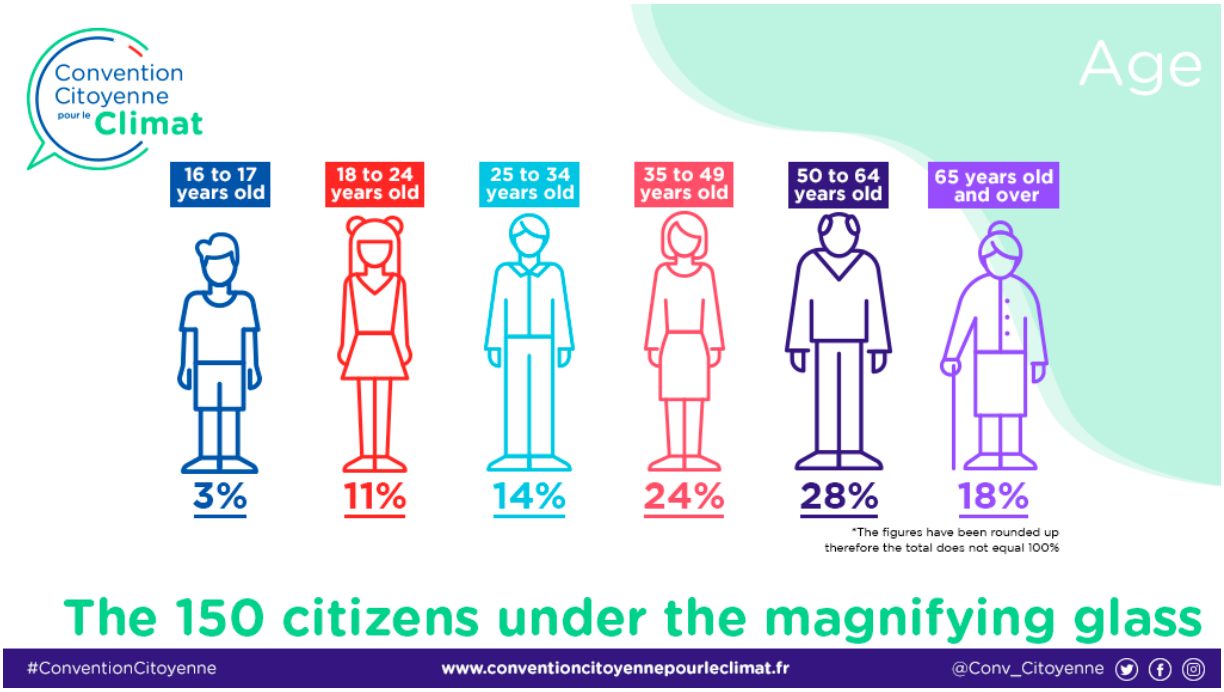
A pool of substitutes

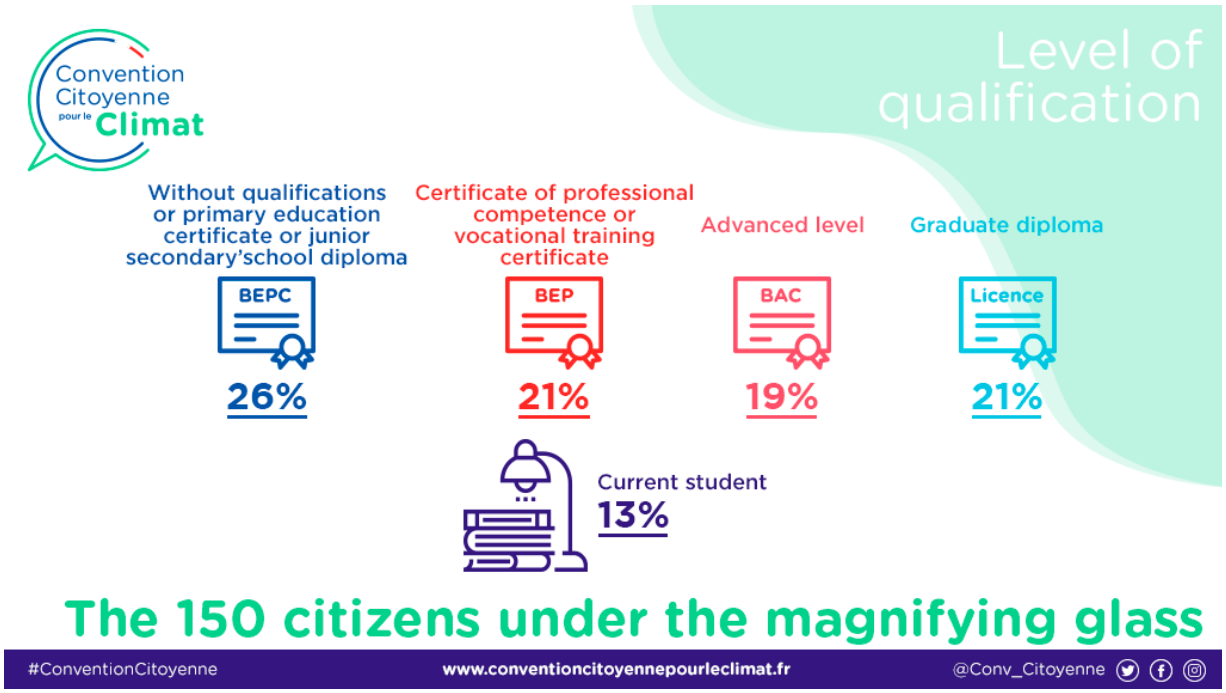
In order to anticipate possible withdrawals prior to or during the Convention's works, the Governance Committee established a group of substitutes, comprised of 40 individuals with varied profiles in order to be able to call on them in the event that one of the 150 citizens initially selected is ultimately prevented from participating.

The 150 French citizens selected at randomt
By establishing these criteria, the diversity of the French population is represented within the Convention.

It is comprised as follows:






Convention Citoyenne pour le Climat
Level of qualification
Without qualifications or primary education certificate or junior secondary'school diploma
BEPC
26%
Certificate of professional competence or vocational training certificate
BEP
21%
Advanced level
BAC
19%
Graduate diploma
Licence
21%
Current student
13%
The 150 citizens under the magnifying glass
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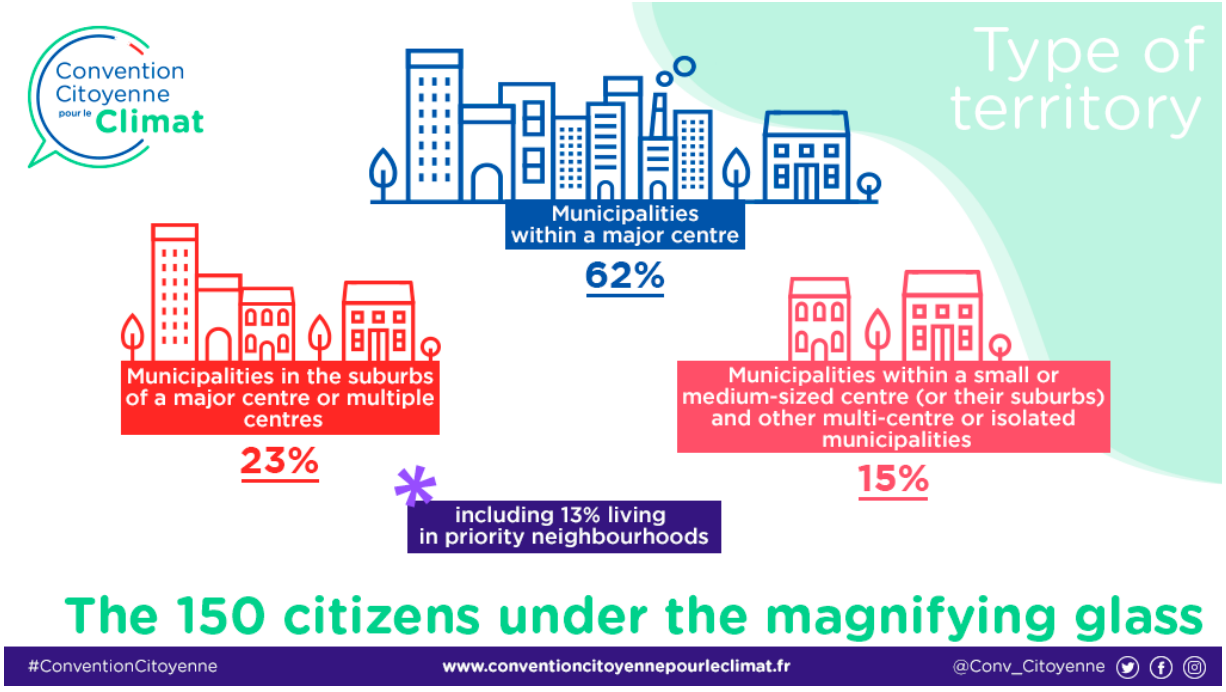
@Conv_Citoyenne


Convention Citoyenne pour le Climat
Type of territory
Municipalities within a major centre
62%
Municipalities in the suburbs of a major centre or multiple centres
23%
Municipalities within a small or medium-sized centre (or their suburbs) and other multi-centre or isolated municipalities
15%
* including 13% living in priority neighbourhoods
The 150 citizens under the magnifying glass
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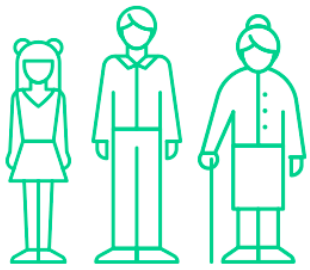
Socio-professional circumstances



- 1% Farmers
- 4% Artisans – Traders – Heads of business
- 9% Senior executives – Independent professions
- 16% Intermediate professions
- 16% Employees
- 10% Workers
- 27% Retirees
- 18% Unemployed

The 150 citizens under the magnifying glass

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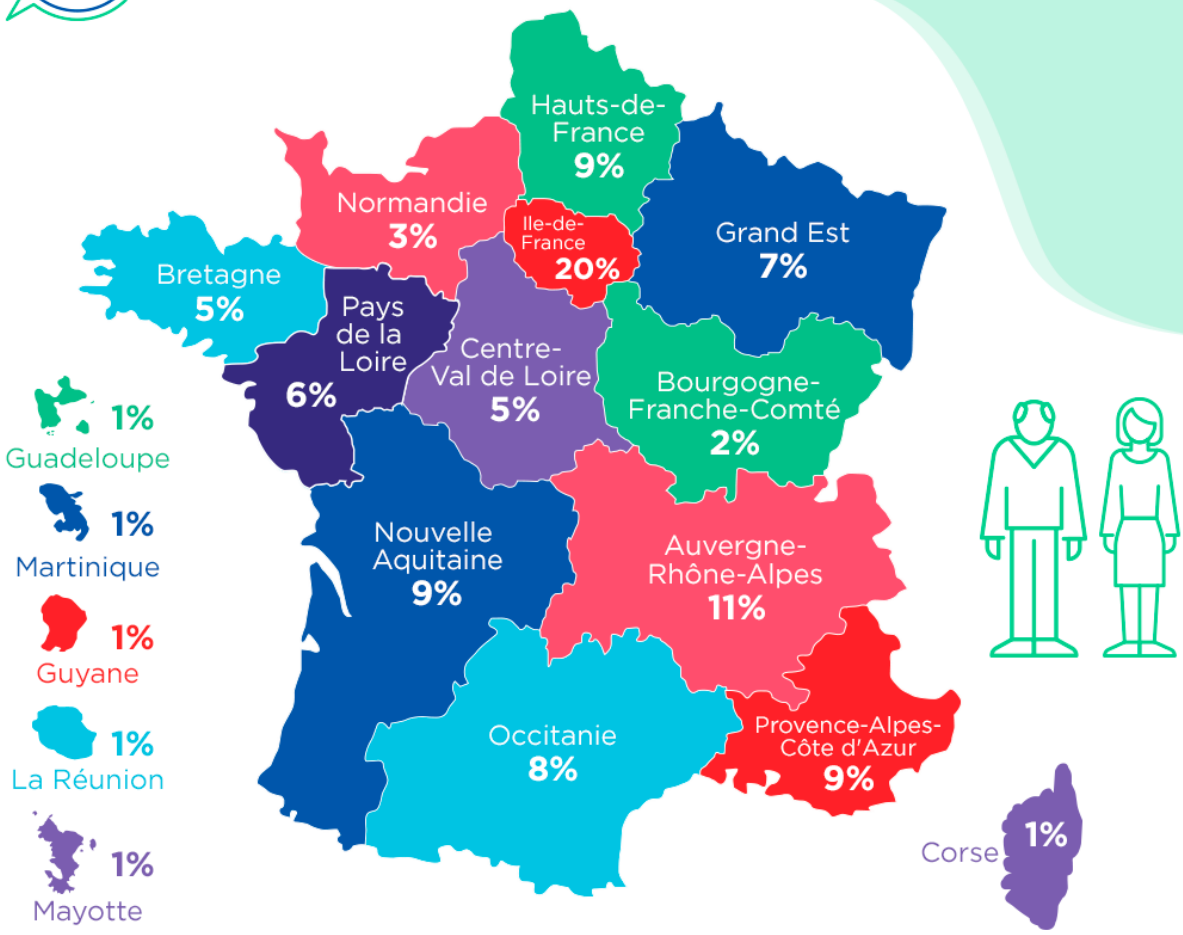
Geographical area



The 150 citizens under the magnifying glass

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An open initiative

The Convention's Governance Committee wanted to make this democratic innovation an example **of openness and transparency**.

Public sessions and hearings will be **broadcast live or via podcast** on the Citizens' Convention website. **The public may attend some sessions** carried out in the ESEC's hemicycle by registering on the Convention's website.

To involve the entire French population in the Convention's works, **an online contribution space was created. Natural or legal persons** (companies, associations, NGOs, public entities, Think Tanks, universities, political parties, etc.) may submit their contributions, which will then be forwarded to the 150 members of the Convention and published on the website: contribute.
conventioncitoyennepourleclimat.fr

« This Citizens' Convention is no doubt the most pathbreaking democratic experience of the Fifth Republic. Faced with Citizens' growing defiance towards institutions and the insufficiency of current democratic tools, this is a new method for creating public policies, which gives citizens the first word.

On the topic of the climate, we need to act fast, whilst ensuring greater social justice. Acting fact means first and foremost enabling citizens to generate a democratic consensus.

Random selection is democratic by essence, ensuring political equality between all citizens, regardless of gender, age, level of qualification, occupation or geographical situation. I am convinced that this political equality is the key to repairing the fractures within our society and strengthening our democracy, whether representative, social or participatory. »

Julien Blanchet, General Rapporteur

Rigorous and independent organisation

A Governance Committee

To organise its works, this Convention can count on the support of a Governance Committee comprised of figures with expertise in the field of ecology, participatory democracy and the economic and social sphere as well as citizens selected at random among the members of the Convention. This Committee is co-chaired by **Thierry Pech** and **Laurence Tubiana**, with **Julien Blanchet** as General Rapporteur.

Guarantors

To ensure compliance with the rules of independence and ethics during the process, the Convention can count on a college of three guarantors: **Cyril Dion** (named by the Chair of the Economic Social and Environmental Council); **Anne Frago** (named by the President of the National Assembly) and **Michèle Kadi** (named by the President of the Senate).

An organisational team

The operational organisation of **the Citizens' Convention was entrusted to the Economic Social and Environmental Council** as the third Assembly of the Republic and a legitimate actor due to its constitutionally independent nature and its recent experience with random selection and citizen participation.

A rigorous method based on interviews with experts, deliberation and collective intelligence

To fuel their discussions and during interviews, members may **question various** scientific, social, economic **experts**, etc.

During the process, the Convention ceases issuing recommendations and takes decisions **autonomously**.

Throughout the works, **citizens are accompanied by professionals in participation, collective deliberation and collective intelligence**.

A technical and legislative support committee is available to assist them with transcribing their proposals in legal terms.

Composition of the Governance Committee

Co-Chairs

Thierry Pech
Chief Executive Officer of the foundation Terra Nova

Laurence Tubiana,
Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the European Climate Foundation

General Rapporteur

Julien Blanchet,
Deputy Chair of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (ESEC)

Qualified experts

3 climate experts

Michel Colombier,
Co-founder and Scientific Director of the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations

Anne Marie Ducroux,
Chair of ESEC's environmental section

Jean Jouzel,
Climatologist, member of the Académie des Sciences and advisor at ESEC

3 experts in participatory democracy

Loïc Blondiaux,
Professor of political sciences and member of the Scientific Council of the scientific interest group Démocratie et Participation

Jean-Michel Fourniau,
Sociologist, Director of research at Ifsttar and Chair of the scientific interest group Démocratie et Participation

Mathilde Imer,
Co-Chair of the association Démocratie Ouverte and initiator of the "Gilets Citoyens" collective

4 economic and social experts

Dominique Gillier, Deputy chair of ESEC and prospective mission officer for the CFDT (French Democratic Confederation of Labour)

Jean Grosset, ESEC quaestor and Director of the Social Dialogue Observatory of the Jean Jaurès foundation

Marie-Claire Martel, Chair of the Coordination des Fédérations et Associations de Cultures (COFAC) and advisor at ESEC

Catherine Tissot-Colle, Vice-President of the environment section of the ESEC

2 individuals named
by the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition
for their expertise on climate matters and participatory processes

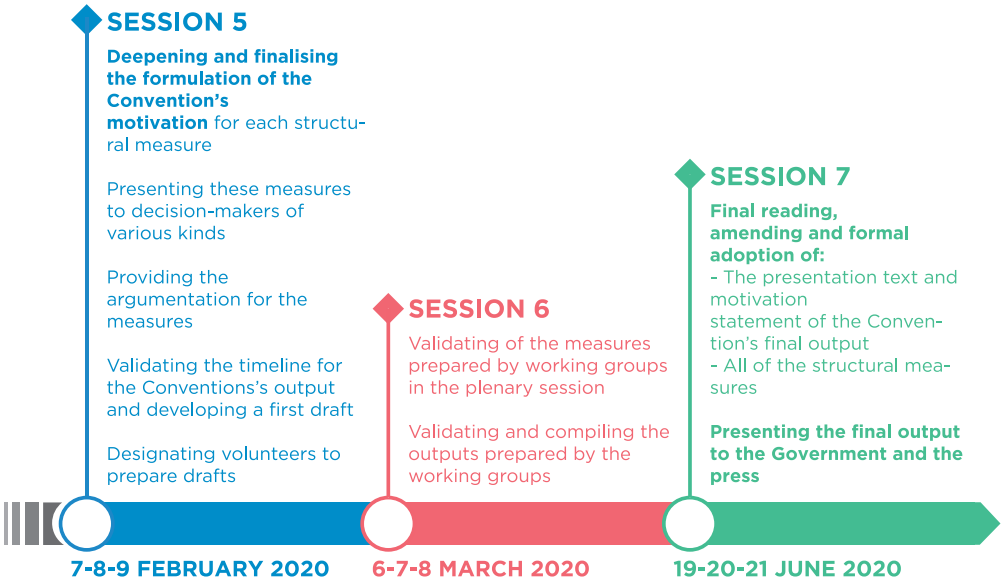
Léo Cohen,
Former advisor with the Ministry for the Ecological and Solidary Transition (February 2016 – May 2017 and September 2018 – June 2019), in charge in particular of steering and setting up the Citizens' Convention within the Minister of State's office until its launch in June 2019

Ophélie Risler,
Head of the anti-greenhouse effect department
within the General Directorate for Energy and Climate
of the Ministry for the Ecological and Solidary Transition

This Governance Committee is completed by the citizens within the Convention, selected at random.

THE CONVENTION'S WORKS

The Citizens' Climate Convention's works programme



Key messages of the 1st session

Following the first session of the works carried out by the Citizens' Convention for the Climate dated 4 to 6 October, through the rapporteurs of working groups, its members communicated the following key messages.

On the urgency to act:

- We are conscious that the situation is serious and that there is an absolute urgency to act.
- The planet is in danger and collective and individual changes (lifestyles, consumption) are necessary and must be made quickly! (perhaps we may even need to go beyond a 40% reduction of greenhouse gases).
- We must be ambitious for future generations, be responsible and collectively aware: we need every one of you.
- We wish to distinguish between the urgency of the situation and its importance by holding each citizen culpable and responsible for their actions.
- Our work, our motivation is guided by each of our interests in the interest of all. Let us be convinced of our privilege in living and breathing on this planet today.

On communication and mediatisation of the Convention and informing the general public:

- If you would like the Citizens' Convention to have an impact, it needs more media coverage, on the radio, on the television, in the press and on social networks!
- Help us! Take part by sending us your ideas and proposals on social networks and on our website, to widen the democratic process and let our work benefit the most people.
- This is an unprecedented initiative, the sincerity of which cannot be doubted: follow us!

On social justice and individual and collective action:

- The Convention must pay attention to the correlation between social justice and the climate in the measures that we put forward, both on an economic, territorial, familial and professional scale.
- Each individual can take action on a daily basis and make a difference at their own scale and within their own means, there is no guilt in it and every gesture counts: "All together for the climate!"
- We must unite, adopt a collective mindset to save the planet and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

On random selection and representativeness:

- We are from and represent French diversity, we are aware of the importance of representing you, French citizens, with full freedom and transparency. Our desire is to take every individual into consideration. You, us and future generations.
- Trust us! We have been selected at random, and individual diversity is a fabulous thing! The people are volunteers for this task and will not be influenced.

On the Convention's works:

- Our task is difficult, and we are aware of this. This is an unprecedented initiative in the history of the Republic. Proposals are made by the people; we are in the process of inventing a new form of democracy!
- Despite the lack of time, the absorption of a large amount of information and the climate emergency, we hope to progress as quickly as possible with the task ahead of us: for the virtual unanimity of citizens selected at random, the desire to act is present!
- We are a free and transparent convention, independent from the Government. We are informed by experts who provide us with clarification to develop our reflections.
- The objective is an ambitious one, and to meet it we will need to propose strong measures.
- This Convention will require that some of its members commit personally at a local level.

On the State's commitment:

- Financial investment from the State is necessary for ecological transition, where can this financing be found (whilst preventing the influence of lobbies)?

Key messages of the 2nd session

The Citizens' Convention for the Climate met on 25, 26 and 27 October for a second session of works. These are the key messages adopted by the 150 members following their works.

On the French society's commitment:

Publicising the Convention:

- We need to give more visibility to our work and share our work with the outside world more.
- Importance of communication and education to raise the population's awareness on environmental issues: to change, we first need to be informed and work together.

Involving each French citizen in the Convention:

- The Convention will not happen without you: we need you, educate yourselves, make proposals on the general public platform.
- The Citizens' Convention is a historic moment and we call for all citizens to participate through social networks and on the Convention's participatory website[1] because citizens must be actors.
- Each French citizen can become a relay for the Convention.

Faced with the urgency to act, efforts must be collective:

- There is a true climate emergency, we must become aware of this and make the necessary changes (particularly our lifestyles which require changing).
- Everyone is concerned by this change, let us not be afraid of it.
- We must succeed in mobilising those individuals who do not feel concerned.
- The issue we are entrusted with is a matter for everyone, follow us in our discussions and proposals!
- It is important for us to take measures quickly to respond to the urgency of the situation.

On the Convention's works:

Deliberation:

- The Convention is working seriously, conscientiously and collectively (in an environment full of respect and listening), with full focus on its objective.
- We have improved our mastery of environmental and social issues; we are going to start working on solutions.
- We are aware that we are not experts, but we hold seats on the Convention as representatives of the entire population.
- Our points of view are very different and make decisions difficult to make but they ensure that we make correct and fair decisions.

[1] https://contribuez.conventioncitoyennepourleclimat.fr/

Goals:

- The motto “Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité” is a necessary part of the Convention’s works.
- There is a sincere commitment by the Convention and an awareness of the urgency, but we still have doubts on our direction, we have 18 days and not 6 months and it is quite frustrating working within a limited framework to put forward our proposals.

Doubts:

- Tension relating to the outcome of the Convention: risk of not generating interesting and concrete results.
- The magnitude of the work demands more time to meet the goal, faced with strong expectations from the Convention which places pressure on our work.

On the spirit of social justice:

- We are careful that our proposals and their consequences fall within a spirit of social justice. This same spirit must be adopted by all citizens.
- Our proposals will aim to promote a social, circular and inclusive economy.
- The outcome of the Convention must enable each individual to become involved according to their capacities.

Discussions on topics:

- At this stage, groups have identified several issues and wish to explore lines of thought to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- The groups have noticed that important issues were shared regardless of the topic and wish to work in a cross-disciplinary manner.
- Discussions are underway within the Convention on financing and taxation sources.

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