

# Government of France (FR)

## République Française

“France today is one of the most modern countries in the world and is a leader among European nations. Since 1958, it has constructed a presidential democracy resistant to the instabilities experienced in earlier parliamentary democracies. In recent years, its reconciliation and cooperation with Germany have proved central to the economic integration of Europe ... At present, France is at the forefront of European states seeking to exploit the momentum of monetary union to advance the creation of a more unified and capable European defense and security apparatus.”

From [www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/fr.html](http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/fr.html),  
27 November 2004