



"I wanted to become a doctor but it was not possible for financial reasons.

I was professor of Germanic languages from 1968 to 1978. I deeply loved this job. I like to transmit knowledge and to share the values of freedom, tolerance and solidarity.

That is why I do many lectures to young people. I deliver a series of messages that are important to me, such as universality. I can't bear any form of nationalism.

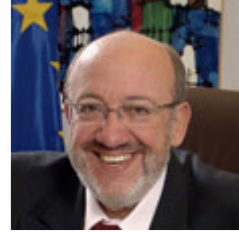
My current role as European Commissioner brought me a lot and enabled to express my beliefs, including my fight against racist and xenophobic feelings. I got involved a lot against discrimination. During my career, when I was already Minister of Foreign Affairs, I developed a real passion for helping Africa. I am also in fraternity with the Congolese people.

Several times, I had the opportunity to get involved, on behalf of the EU, to help resolve the deadly conflicts in developing countries where entire populations are victims of deprivation, poverty, violence and dictatorship.

Most of the time I visited the country to take the measure of conflict, drama and outlooks. I believe that in difficult and tense times, we must encourage discussion. My real mission was to build bridges between enemies. I often act on instinct, which is not intelligence at random but built on the experience, pain, suffering and failures. The sensitivity is the highest quality for women and men who are politicians.

I believe that number 112 is a concrete demonstration of the impact of the EU on citizens' daily lives. Therefore, I will do all I can to make sure that citizens are aware of the 3 digits that can save their life, 112"

## Louis Michel



### PREVIOUS POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- European Commissioner for development and humanitarian aid
- European Commissioner for Research
- Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for Institutional Reform (July 1999-July 2004)
- Member of the lower House (Chambre): 17 December 1978-13 June 1999  
Member of the upper House (Sénat) directly elected on 13 June 1999 and 18 May 2003
- Leader of the PRL in Parliament (26 February 1992-8 June 1995)
- Leader of the PRL-FDF in Parliament (8 June 1995-26 October 1995)
- President of the Walloon Regional Council (8 January 1992-26 February 1992)
- Member of the Jodoigne Town Council (1 January 1977-16 December 1982)
- Mayor of Jodoigne (1 January 1983-16 December 2004)



- Chairman of the PRL (23 January 1982-23 January 1990 — re-elected 23 January 1990)
- Chairman of the PRL (21 October 1995-13 July 1999)
- President of the PRL-FDF-MCC Federation
- Vice-President of the Liberal International
- Member of the Benelux Inter-parliamentary Consultative Council
- Member of the Council of the ELDR

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Guest Professor at the University of Liège

#### PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Primary school teacher
- Lecturer in Dutch, English and German Literature at the Ecole normale provinciale of Jodoigne (1968-1978)

#### TITLES and DISTINCTIONS

Minister of state

Honorary mayor of Jodoigne

Chevalier of the Order of Leopold

Officer of the Order of Leopold

Commander of the Order of Leopold

Civic medal – First Class

Dr Honoris Causa, Université de Gembloux

Grand Cross of the Royal Swedish Order of the Polar Star

Grand Cross of the Order Infante Dom Henrique

Grand Cross of the Order of Orange-Nassau

Grand Cross of the Order of Isabel the Catholic

Grand Cross of the Order of Dannebrog

Grand Cross of the Order of Honour

Grand Officer of the Star of Romania

Grand Officer of the Ordre de la Pléiade (Order of French-speaking communities and Cultural dialogues)

Grand Officer of the Order of the Legion of Honour

Grand Cordon of the Order of Merit

Stara Planina Order - First Class

Order Duarte Sanchez and Mella (Dominican Republic)

Doctor Honoris causa of Antananarivo University (Madagascar)

Doctor Honoris causa of Gembloux University (Belgium)

#### QUALIFICATIONS

Teaching diploma (Germanic languages) (1968)



## PUBLICATIONS

- Horizons : la volonté d'impliquer le citoyen dans la politique internationale, 2004, éditions Luc Pire, préface de Kofi Annan et Guy Verhofstadt
- Les nouveaux enjeux de la politique étrangère belge, 2003, éditions Larcier, collection de la Faculté de Droit de l'Université de Liège
- L'Europe, je veux savoir : 110 questions simples sur le grand univers européen, 2001, 2003 et 2004, Editions Luc Pire
- L'axe du Bien, 2003 Editions Luc Pire
- Contre le racisme, J'agis. La conférence mondiale contre le Racisme, la discrimination raciale, la xénophobie et l'intolérance qui y est associée, 2002
- "Lettre aux citoyens de mon pays" (1999, 2003, 2004, 2007)
- Objectif 100, La Wallonie j'y crois !, 1988, PRL-Editions
- Rendre confiance, 1998, Editions Luc Pire, Collection politique
- Wallons et Optimismes, 1997, Editions Luc Pire, Collection politique
- De Echte Walen, 1997, Editions Luc Pire, Collection politique
- Libres et forts, projet éducatif pour réussir le futur, 1986
- L'enfant, en collaboration avec Philippe Monfils, 1984
- Le défi vert en collaboration avec Daniel Ducarme, 1980.