

Beat: Politics

MEDIAPART REVEALS THE AFFAIR OF LUXURIOUS LOBSTER DINNERS BY ECOLOGY MINISTER

DE RUGY FORMER PDT OF FRENCH ASSEMBLY

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USPA NEWS - One of the best French investigation Journal, MEDIAPART reported on Wednesday, that French Environment and Energy Transition, Francois de Rugy hosted luxury dinners including lobsters and expensive wine such as Mouton Rothschild (The Bottle costing € 500) while he was President of the French National Assembly (French House of parliament), during October 2017 till June 2018 period. The timing could not be perfect, as Francois de Rugy was planned to having an appearance after the weekly Council of Ministers, (Each Wednesday at 10am, Elysee, under the Presidency of President Emmanuel Macron). Francois De Rugy came along with Brune Poirson (Secretary of Ecology) and Sibeth Ndiaye, Spokesperson of the French government, at the Elysee, press conference, held after the Council of Ministers. Environment and Energy Transition Minister, who happens to be the second most important Minister at the highest level of politician position in France, answered to the journalists on Wednesday, regarding the Lobsters Dinners, and the allegations of « Public expenses for the sake of private dinners at Hotel de Lassay » (Residency of French President's Parliament's) of Mediapart,

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Environment and Energy Transition, De Rugy also insisted on his own beliefs, and justified his own genuine transparent attitude while President of the French Parliament, « I reduced the budget for entertaining guests by 13 percent when I was president of the French Parliament » This justification worsen the situation as, Francois de Rugy, is not implementing to himself what he is demanding from the MP's as far as the expenses paid by the Public Funds "I assume full responsibility for the fact that a parliament speaker or a minister should be able to hold informal meetings over dinner with business leaders, cultural figureheads and university deans." MEDIAPART reported that Francois de Rugy spent €63,000 on renovations in the state-owned apartment he moved into when he became environment minister in June 2018. All this « events » and « allegations » put together, and other allegations published by MEDIAPART, considered to the most serious journal of investigation, and renowned for being accurately documented and full of genuine sources, have created a great controversy throughout the internet and via the social networks.

MEDIAPART FOUNDED BY EDWY PLENEL IS AN INDEPENDENT & POWERFUL INVESTIGATIVE JOURNAL

Mediapart is an independent French online journal. It is the most active and powerful investigative and opinion journal in France, which was created in 2008 by the iconic Edwy Plenel, former editor in-chief of Le Monde, and the editor is Francois Bonnet. Mediapart is published mainly in French but also in English and Spanish, online.-----

Edwy Plenel, was born in 1952, and became journalist since 1976. First at Rouge (1976-1978), then a few months at the Matin de Paris and, above all, at Le Monde for twenty-five years (1980-2005). Co-founder and President of Mediapart since its creation in 2008. Edwy Plenel, is a prolific author of about thirty books (bibliography available on Wikipedia in French, in English, in Spanish, in Catalan, in Breton).-----

Laurent Mauduit is the cofounder of media part with Edwy Plenel. Laurent Mauduit is former Journalists at AFP (1979-84), The Tribune (1984-90), and Le Quotidien of Paris (1979).

Fabrice Arfi is also one of the most popular and performer investigative journalist at Mediapart. Fabrice Arfi is co-head of investigations at Mediapart with Michaël Hajdenberg. He is former Former reporter at Lyon Figaro (1999-2004), at 20 Minutes (2004-2005), co-founder of the weekly Tribune de Lyon (2005-2007), He also collaborated with AFP, at Le Monde, Libération, Parisien / Today in France, Canard Enchaîné (Satiric Journal) Mediapart's income is solely derived from subscription fees; the website does not carry any advertising. In 2011 Mediapart made a profit for the first time, netting €500,000 from around 60,000 subscribers.-----

Mediapart consists of two main sections: Le Journal, run by professional journalists, and Le Club, a collaborative forum edited by its subscriber community. In 2011 Mediapart launched FrenchLeaks, a whistleblower website inspired by Wikileaks. In March 2017 Edwy Plenel stated that the online journal had achieved 130 000 subscribers. In March 2018 the online journal achieved 140 000 subscribers. Mediapart has played a central role in the investigation and revelation of several major French political scandals.

SIBETH NDIAYE SPOKESWOMAN BACKED THE MINISTER DE RUGY AND SIAD HE RETAINS SUPPORT FROM PDT MACRON & THE PM

The spokeswoman Sibeth Ndiaye said that The President Macron and his PM Edouard Philippe are « standing by their minister Francois de Rugy » « The minister ... evidently retains the trust of the president and the prime minister ... it's important that high-level politicians are able to have these ties with civil society under various forms, including in informal dinners ... of course with a lot of transparency and in a measured fashion," Sibeth Ndiaye said.-----

At the same time, Six sovereign wealth funds together weighing more than 3,000 billion dollars (Norway, New Zealand, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates), gathered Friday by Emmanuel Macron, have decided to commit to the fight against climate change, announced the Elysee. In a charter to be presented Friday evening at the Elysee Palace, these heavyweights in global finance, fueled mainly by oil and gas revenues in their country, undertake to encourage the companies in which they invest to integrate the risk of oil, climate change and present public data on their low carbon strategy.

The six sovereign, to finance the Climate Plan, through their sovereign Funds who signed up, last year, their joint commitment is part of the "One Planet Summit" of December 12, initiated by President Macron, over his motto « Make the Planet Great again », which aimed to mobilize the private sector for the climate, and especially the financial sector.

The six sovereign, were invited at Elysee Palace the same afternoon of the controversy over Lobster's affair, of De Rugy. Brune Poirson, and Bruno Le Maire French Minister of Economy did the job, by welcoming the six sovereign funds leaders who came at Elysee Palace and made their announcements in the courtyard of the Palace. Minister of Environment Francois de Rugy was not here.

Nevertheless, De Rugy justifies the luxury dinners with the « happy few » from his wife's close circle, to be a reason for « being more in touch with the ordinary ». Yet this is exactly what has choked the French citizen, and created a large converse expressed throughout internet, and pushed up by the media. For the records, Francois de Rugy has been the Right hand of the Mayor of Nantes (Socialist Left Wing) and has started up his politic career via his activism in ecology, defending climate causes, before join in lately Emmanuel Macron's party LREM (« La Republique en Marche » The Republic is marching »), after his bid for the presidency during the campaign of 2017.-----

The most essential question that remains, now, is regarding the resignation of Francois de Rugy, who was appointed lately, when Nicolas Hulot (Also Famous Environmental activist, and Chairman of his Foundation Hulot) his predecessor, resigned, in 2018, arguing that the actual government does not give him liberty to tackling climate change as it should be".

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