
EDOUARD PHILIPPE TILTS RIGHT TO COMBAT FAR RIGHT IN FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL RACE

- 18.05.2026

Politico (18 May 2026)

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France's former PM is popular, but he faces numerous challenges to prevent Marine Le Pen or Jordan Bardella from winning the Élysée.

Former French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe believes its Frances mainstream conservative voters who will propel him to the presidency in a showdown with the far right next year.

Philippe, a one-time ally of centrist President Emmanuel Macron, held onto his job as mayor of the gritty Normandy port city of Le Havre in a tight municipal election in March, when he defeated a strong challenge from the Communists.

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