

BRIEFING BOOK: ECONOMY

THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN IN FRANCE

French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde gives us a European's perspective on the economy. Is finance "going French"? [WATCH HERE](#)

Christine Lagarde

Christine Lagarde is the current Minister of Economic Affairs, Industry and Employment of France.

As France's Minister of Economic Affairs she is responsible for the world's fifth largest economy. Lagarde is an economic reformer, and she has encouraged French trade with emerging markets.

In 2006, Lagarde was ranked the 30th most powerful woman in the world by *Forbes* Magazine and one of the 100 most influential people in the world by *Time*. She has made history for being the first female Minister of Economic Affairs in the G8, the first woman to ever be in charge of economic policy and France, and before that she was the first female chairman of the international law firm Baker & McKenzie.

She has been awarded France's highest honor, the Légion d'honneur.



PANEL ON THE RECESSION'S END

Nouriel Roubini, whose words are closely followed by Wall Street, recently said that the end of the recession is near. Is it? Fared asks Roubini and an all-star panel featuring billionaire Mort Zuckerman and Harvard historian Niall Ferguson. [WATCH HERE](#)



Nouriel Roubini

Dr. Nouriel Roubini is a professor of economics and international business at New York University and chairman of the economic consultancy firm RGE Monitor. This year, *Prospect Magazine* voted him #2 on its "list of the world's 100 greatest living public intellectuals."

He is a research fellow with the National Bureau of Economic Research in New York and the Centre for Economic Policy Research in London and serves on the Bretton Woods Committee and the Council on Foreign Relations.

He has spent time with the IMF, the World Bank, the White House Council of Economic Advisors, and the Federal Reserve.

Once called "Dr. Doom" by the *New York Times* for his grim outlook on the future, he has since been called a "prophet" and a "sage" for having predicted the housing bubble and global financial crisis.

In addition to his work with NYU and RGE Monitor, he is the author of several books, articles, and his website, which was ranked #1 web site in the world in economics by The *Economist* Magazine. He spends much of his time speaking and meeting with finance ministers in Asia and Europe. He has recently appeared before Congress, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the World Economic Forum at Davos.

His most recent book is [Bailouts or Bail-ins? Responding to Financial Crisis in Emerging Economics.](#)

Mortimer Zuckerman

Mortimer Zuckerman is a magazine editor, publisher, and real estate billionaire. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of U.S. News & World Report.

Since 1993 he has been the publisher and owner of the *New York Daily News* and is co-founder and chairman of the board and director of Boston Properties Inc.

In 2008, *Forbes* named Zuckerman 147th wealthiest American, up from 382 in 2006. The increase was tied to the sale in 2007 of 280 Park Avenue and 5 Times Square in New York, which together brought in \$2.5 billion for his company, Boston Properties, Inc.

In 1980, he purchased the literary magazine *The Atlantic Monthly*, where he was Chairman from 1980 to 1999. In 1999 he sold the magazine to David G. Bradley for US\$12 million. Commenting on this sale and that of *Fast Company* magazine, which he sold for \$365 million at the height of the tech boom in 2000, two deals on which he says wryly he "averaged out."

In addition to his publishing and real-estate interests, Zuckerman is also an active supporter of Israeli and international Jewish causes. Zuckerman serves on the Board of Trustees of several educational and private institutions such as the Aspen Institute, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York University, and the Hole in the Wall Gang Fund. He is a member of the JPMorgan's National Advisory Board, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and the International Institute for Strategic Studies. He taught at Harvard Business School for nine years and has also taught at Yale University.



Niall Ferguson

Niall Ferguson is a renowned professor, best-selling author, columnist, and frequent guest on *GPS*.

He is the Laurence A. Tisch professor of history at Harvard University and a William Ziegler professor at Harvard Business School. He is also a fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, Jesus College at Oxford University. He is also a resident faculty member of the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies.

His latest book, [The Ascent of Money](#), is a *New York Times* bestseller.



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Christine Lagarde:

["Lagarde attacks bank bonus culture"](#) *Financial Times*

["The 100 Most Powerful Women in the World 2006"](#), *Forbes.com*

["French Fin Min Lagarde: 'Very Good' US, France Cooperation"](#) *Dow Jones*

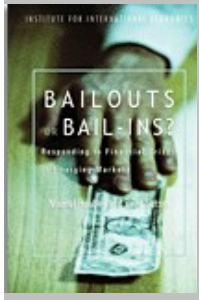
Mortimer Zuckerman:

["The Economy Is Even Worse Than You Think"](#) *Wall Street Journal*
(summary [HERE](#) for those without a subscription)

["Intelligent Investing Briefing Book"](#) *Forbes.com*

[Mort Zuckerman opinion pieces](#) *US News & World Report*

Nouriel Roubini:



[Bailouts or Bail-ins? Responding to Financial Crisis in Emerging Economics.](#)
(Roubini's latest book with co-author Brad Setser)

[RGE Monitor](#) (Nouriel Roubini's highly acclaimed blog)

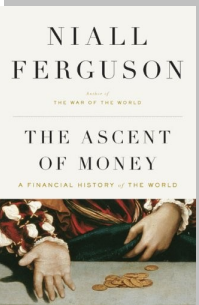
["Roubini Sees Risk of 'Double Dip' Global Recession"](#) *Bloomberg News*

["Eight Who Saw it Coming"](#) *Fortune*

["Dr. Doom"](#). *New York Times*

["Intellectual Surge"](#) *Prospect Magazine* (ranked him #2 of world's 100 greatest living intellectuals)

Niall Ferguson:



[The Almighty Bond Market: Niall Ferguson's Concerns about the U.S. Deficit Explained](#)
RGE Monitor (Roubini's website)

[Niall Ferguson's Website](#)

[The Ascent of Money](#) (Niall's latest book)