



MARTINE BENAYOUN

Lawyer at the Paris Bar

President of the Cercle-Réfléchir les droits de l'Homme - Vice-President of International League against Racism and Anti-Semitism

A DUAL CAREER: PROFESSIONAL AND VOLUNTARY

An international-oriented professional career

Martine Benayoun has advised French companies in the development of their activities in Africa and in the Middle East, from 1990 to 2011 within the legal department of Ubifrance (French Agency for International Business Development) then within the law firm BDBAvocats since 2012.

She actively works in the field of commercial contracts, foreign investment regimes and in the creation of local structures in Africa and in the Middle-East. Consulting activities, training activities and activities of networking between different partners about legal aspects and geopolitical issues.

She is the founder of Les Nouveaux Cercles, a think tank on Africa, the Middle East and International trade ethics, discussion forums on subjects related to the sustainability of foreign investments of companies (legal aspects and geopolitical issues).

Martine Benayoun is lawyer at the Paris Bar, co-founder of the law firm BDBAvocats and of the think tank Les Nouveaux Cercles.

A commitment dedicated to human rights

Martine Benayoun is Vice-President of the Licra and Founding-President of Les Cercle-Réfléchir les droits de l'Homme (Reflection on Human Rights, think tank of the Licra). She created three national commissions within the Licra :

- ▶ The Training Commission in 1988, whose mission is to recruit and to train young activists to the struggle against racism and anti-semitism (under the chairmanship of Jean Pierre-Bloch)
- ▶ The Education Commission in 1990, whose mission is to organise mini-colloques on antiracism in secondary schools and high schools in sensitive neighbourhoods (under the chairmanship of Pierre Aidenbaum)
- ▶ The Culture Commission in 2000 responsible for the animation of public and cultural conferences in the fields of arts and culture, to the benefit of the anti-racist cause: Literary meetings, Discussions at the Festival d'Avignon, Antiracist film festival at the MK2 (under the chairmanship of Patrick Gaubert).

She actively participated in many manifestations at every level, be it national, european, or international

- ▶ Work of the European Year against racism in 1997
- ▶ Work of the Durban Conference in 2001
- ▶ Work of the OSCI in Warsaw, Vienna and Prague in 2011

She animated many discussions, meetings and evening events of the Licra

- ▶ Evening events: evenings in support of Robert Redecker at the Paris Bar in 2007, Celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the Higher Council of French Notaries (Conseil supérieur du Notariat) in 2008 and at the Palais de Chaillot in 2010, Josephine Baker's 100th Birthday, Tribute to Pierre Mendès-France with Eric Roussel and Georges Kiejman...
- ▶ Panel discussions: on geopolitical issues, Israel-Palestine, China-Tibet, Iran-Perse, International migrations...
- ▶ Theatre evenings: followed by discussions with the actors and directors of: *L'orchestre en sursis*, *Résister c'est exister*, *Lettres de délation*, *Le Cabaret de la grand'peur*, *Le Bal de Kafka*, *Quichotte*, *Sacco et Vanzetti*, *Molly des sables*, *Si c'est un homme*, *L'homme dans le plafond*...
- ▶ Discussions with outstanding women and men: Jacques Attali, Alain Finkielkraut, Eric Roussel, Claude Lanzmann, Jean-Christophe Ruffin, Blandine Kriegel, Laure Adler, Rony Brauman, Jean-François Kahn, Danièle Thompson, Michel Boujenah, Jacques Tarnero, Georges Kiejman, Virginie Martin, Philippe Val, Elisabeth Roudinesco, Cynthia Fleury, Gilles Clavreul, Marc Mézard, Abdennour Bidar, Delphine Horvilleur, Ghaleb Bencheikh, Emmanuel Laurentin, Fabrice d'Almeida, François Rachline, Jean-Claude Monod, Antoine Spire, Héléne L'Heuillet, Guillaume Klossa, Fabien Truong, Rudy Reichstadt, Valentine Zuber, Antoine Arjakovsky...

She took part in the creation of the section Licra Rome and organised its inauguration in the Farnese palace in the presence of 200 great Italian figures and of the French Ambassador in Rome, Jean-Marc de la Sablière, in 2009.

In 2012, she created the Prize Jean Pierre-Bloch which rewards, *an artist and his work related to Human rights*. The winner of the first edition was the pianist Pascal Amoyel. In 2015, for the fourth edition, the Prize went to Barbara Hendricks, at the Élysée Palace, in the presence of François Hollande, on the 8th of december.

Martine Benayoun was the first woman to run as a candidate for the election of the Presidency of the Licra in 2010 alongside the three other candidates, Philippe Benassaya, Alain Jakubowicz and Gérard Unger. At the outcome of this election won by Alain Jakubowicz, she founded Le Cercle-Réfléchir les droits de l'Homme (think tank of the Licra) and organised its inauguration in 2011 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the presence of 250 eminent figures with the support of François Zimeray, French ambassador.

She received the Human Rights Prize of the French Republic in 1994, awarded by the National Consultative Commission for Human Rights, for her project « *racism and young people: living in suburbs* ». Martine Benayoun graduated from the Law University Paris V-René Descartes and obtained the Research Master International Relations at the Institute of Political Studies in Paris (Sciences Po Paris). Martine Benayoun completed her courses Theatre and Cinema at the Cours Florent. She is eligible to the Theatre and Cinema lessons.