**IB Higher Level - Nationalism in France**

**Front National – Key Points**

**Economic Policies**

* French products for French people with food, oil and automotive industry at the forefront
* Would like to eventually phase out the welfare support system

**Immigration**

* Critics of the immigration system especially from North Africa, West Africa and the Middle East.
* Most focus on the perceived threat against the secular value system of the French Republic.
* Criticism of Muslims, for what the party sees as their intents to impose their own values on France

**Foreign Policy**

* From the 1980s to the 1990s, the party's policy shifted from favouring the European Union to turning against it
* Le Pen campaigned on pulling France out of the EU and re-introducing the franc as national currency
* In the early 2000s the party denounced the Schengen, Maastricht, and Amsterdam treaties as foundations for "a supranational entity spelling the end of France.
* In 2004, the party criticised the EU as "the last stage on the road to world government," likening it to a "puppet of the New World Order
* Marine Le Pen has advocated that France should leave the euro (along with Spain, Greece and Portugal She also wants to reintroduce customs borders and has campaigned against allowing dual citizenship

The National Front was a marginal party from 1973, the first election it participated in, until its breakthrough in the 1984 European elections, where it won 11% of the vote and ten MEPs. Following this election, the party's support mostly ranged from around 10 to 15%, although it saw a drop to around 5% in some late 2000s elections. The party managed to advance to the final round of the presidential elections in 2002, although it failed to attract much more support after the initial first round vote. The National Front received 4.7 million votes in the 2014 European Parliament election, finishing first with 24.86% of the vote and 24 of France's 74 seats. It was the first time the anti-immigrant, anti-EU party had won a nationwide election in its four-decade history. The party's success came as a shock in France and the EU