



# ***ELECTION NIGHT 2017***

## **Emmanuel Macron Speech**

April 23rd 2017 - Porte de Versailles (Paris)

Thank you everyone!

Here we are, here we are!

My dear fellow citizens, today, Sunday April 23rd, the people of France have spoken. While our country is going through an unprecedented time in its History, marked by terrorism, economic challenges, social suffering and ecological urgency, it answered in the most beautiful way: by showing up in great number to vote. The choice they made puts me in the top position on the eve of the first round of this election.

I weigh the honour and the remarkable responsibility that now falls upon me. Here, tonight, I want to thank the other first round candidates: Nathalie ARTHAUD, François ASSELINEAU, Jacques CHEMINADE, François FILLON, Nicolas DUPONT-AIGNAN, Benoît HAMON, Jean LASSALLE, Jean-Luc MÉLENCHON and Philippe POUTOU. And I thank every one of you for applauding them. This is like you, this is like us. I appreciate the disappointment of those who supported them and their own. I thank Benoît HAMON and François FILLON for their call to vote for me in the second round.

To all those who have accompanied me since April 2016 by creating and developing En Marche !, I want to say a few words tonight . In one year, we have changed the face of French politics. The deep, organic, ancient feeling that has always guided our nation, the patriotic commitment and the dynamism for the common good beyond divisions have won tonight. I will never forget your persistent willpower nor the demanding energy that millions of you have spent for this to happen. For a year now, everywhere in France, you have taken part in our nation's destiny. You have successfully proven that hope in our country was not merely a dream, a whim nor a bubble but rather a fierce yet kind willingness. You have given away your days and, when those were not enough, your nights. Tonight my

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friends, I owe it to you and I know it. You must now carry on this vibrant pledge until the end and beyond. Never give up, never forget those months during which you have changed the course of our country and proven the establishment wrong. Remain as brave and persistent as you have been. This path is now yours to pursue. Starting tonight, I must go even beyond and unite all the French people. I will never be far from you and I will always need you.

I want to thank the millions of French citizens who put their trust in me by casting their vote. I fully acknowledge the extent of the responsibility that comes with it and tonight I remain clear-headed, the joy I feel is both heartfelt and stern. In the second round of this election, I will champion the optimism and the voice of hope that we want for our country and Europe on your behalf.

To my own, I want to say thank you. To those who are here and to those who are no more. For we cannot accomplish anything great by forgetting who we are and where we come from. To my whole family, and to Brigitte, always by my side and so much more, without whom I would not be myself.

From this point forward my friends, it falls upon me to rally more widely, reconcile our France in order to win in two weeks, and tomorrow lead our country.

I have heard during these past months, and even today, the doubts, the anger, the fears of the French people, yet their desire for change as well. It is that same desire that has led them to turn away from the two major parties that have governed France for over thirty years. This evening, I wish to address all French citizens, whether they are on the mainland or overseas. I know your expectations. And I aspire to become your President in a couple of weeks.

The president of the entire French people, the president of patriots in the face of the nationalist threat. A president who protects, transforms and builds. A president that allows those who wish to create, innovate, undertake and work to do so more smoothly and swiftly. A president who helps those who have less, who are more fragile or struggle through life, thanks to education, health care, work and solidarity.

I heard your call for true change, for a vibrant democracy, for ecological and economic demandingness in order to build a possible future that will make France stronger in a protective Europe. I will need your votes, I will need your trust. My dear fellow citizens, I will be working over the next two weeks with the aim to rally as widely as possible behind my candidacy. The magnitude of this rally will be decisive in order to preside and lead. The challenge, starting tonight, is not to vote against anyone, the challenge is to decide to put an end once and for all to this system that has been unable to respond to our country's issues for over thirty years.

The challenge is to write a new page in our way of doing politics and to act to make sure everyone finds their place in France and in Europe fairly and efficiently. That is our challenge. This is why, my dear fellow citizens, I want to build now a majority of government, a majority of fresh change. It will be composed of new faces and new talents. Everyone can embody this majority. I will not ask those joining me where they come from but whether they agree upon the renewal of our political landscape, to ensure the safety of the French people, to unlock work, to rebuild education, to allow everyone to progress socially, no matter where they come from, and to revitalise the European construction.

As of tonight, take the chance of joining me and the next parliamentary majority I intend to build tomorrow. My dear fellow citizens, you did it! You brought us this far! You proved there is no fatality in our country!

You are the face of renewal, you are the face of French hope. The same one I want to bring to victory in fifteen days!

My dear fellow citizens, there is no multiple France, there is only one. Our France. A France of patriots, within a protective European Union that we will have to remodel!

The task will be formidable, I am ready for it with you by my side! The fight to be worthy to serve our country starts tonight and we will prevail!

Long live the Republic! Long live France!

**Replay >**

[youtu.be/oTuJud-kgR4](https://youtu.be/oTuJud-kgR4)

**en-marche.fr >**

[en-marche.fr/article/declaration-emmanuel-macron-23-avril-2017](https://en-marche.fr/article/declaration-emmanuel-macron-23-avril-2017)

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