



PRESS RELEASE
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AFG, Emergence and Paris EUROPLACE announce the passing of Alain Leclair and honour his commitment to serve the marketplace.

It was with great sadness that AFG, the French Asset Management Association, Emergence and Paris EUROPLACE were informed of the passing of Alain Leclair on Monday, 15 June 2020.

Alain Leclair – a man of conviction, consideration and action – was a pioneer and an unwavering advocate of the third-party asset-management industry in France and Europe. As a market player, businessman and community project coordinator, his career demonstrated his commitment to serve the economy's financing needs through the financial sector.

Alain Leclair unified all of the asset-management companies in the French Asset Management Association (AFG), regardless of their size or provenance. With kindness and tenacity, he always inspired an innovative spirit resolutely focused on the future and Europe, promoting the use of savings to sustainably finance the economy over the course of his four mandates as chairman and then as honorary chairman of the AFG.

“Alain was ahead of the curve in understanding that asset management was a separate profession serving investors, individuals and institutions. He successfully devoted his life to this vision, working tirelessly to make it the reality we all experience today. For that, we are extremely grateful to him”, stated Eric Pinon, Chairman of the AFG and former Vice-Chairman under Alain Leclair from 1997 to 2003.

In 2012 Leclair founded Emergence – an incubation fund he chaired until late 2019 – thereby creating and carrying out an innovative and ambitious marketplace initiative to enable independent asset management companies in France to achieve higher growth and to accelerate their development with financial assistance. He managed to bring together the top institutional investors of the Paris financial marketplace, who select and provide capital for talented asset managers to invest with the support of NewAlpha Asset Management. The passing of Alain Leclair, Honorary Chairman of Emergence since 1 January 2020, comes at a time when Emergence is extending its model across Europe thanks to his inspiration.

“With his perceptive and daring mind, Alain Leclair made a profound impact on third-party asset management in France for many decades. We would like to salute an endearing, forward-thinking man who worked unremittingly to support the expansion and momentum of one of the Paris financial marketplace’s most distinguished industries”, said Laurent Deborde, Chairman of Emergence.

He sat on the Board of Directors of Paris EUROPLACE, Europlace Institute of Finance (IEF) and the Finance Innovation competitiveness cluster, and constantly endeavoured to understand the stakes of the financial marketplace for the French economy – particularly in terms of employment and impact – not only to foster fair and sustainable growth, but also to promote the strengths of the French financial marketplace abroad.

“Alain Leclair had a long-term vision and helped gain recognition for the role of the financial marketplace in developing the French economy and in meeting the population's needs better in addition to promoting our strengths throughout Europe and overseas. His lively and innovative spirit will continue to inspire our future initiatives”, explained Augustin de Romanet, Chairman of Paris EUROPLACE.

Alain Leclair joined Paribas in 1966, founding Paribas Asset Management in Paris in 1984. He was CEO of this subsidiary until 1999, by which time he had made the company a central figure in the New York and Tokyo marketplaces. He was Chairman of the French Asset Management Association (AFG) for 12 years, from 1997 to 2009, thereafter becoming Honorary Chairman. He also chaired the European Federation of Asset Management in 1999 and 2000. In 2001, he co-founded La Française des Placements. Alain Leclair was a member of the French Public Pension Fund (FRR) Supervisory Board.

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