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The European Ombudsman pays tribute to the French Ombudsman, Dominique Baudis, who passed away this morning 10 April 2014

The European Ombudsman investigates complaints about maladministration in the EU institutions and bodies. Any EU citizen, resident, or an enterprise or association in a Member State, can lodge a complaint with the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman offers a fast, flexible and free means of solving problems with the EU administration.

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The European Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, has expressed her great sadness at the death of her French counterpart, the Defender of Rights, Dominique Baudis.

Emily O'Reilly commented: "Dominique Baudis was not only an active colleague devoted to serving the public, he was also a pillar of cooperation between ombudsmen on the international stage. France and Europe have lost a great politician, a passionate journalist, and an exemplary defender of rights who dedicated his life to helping others. I would like to present my sincere condolences to his family and to all the colleagues in the office of the *Défenseur des droits*."

