



Josep Huguet i Biosca
Minister of Innovation, Universities and Enterprise, Catalan Government

Josep Huguet i Biosca was born in Manresa (El Bages) on 8 March 1951. He qualified as an industrial engineer at the School of Engineering in Terrassa and in Contemporary History from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. He was manager an engineering firm, a teacher (1976-1982) and headmaster (1976-1980) of the Sallent School of Vocational Training, teacher (1982-1995) and member of the management team at the at the Institut Lacetània in Manresa, and a lecturer at the Catalan Summer University from 1989 to 1994.

Since 1966, he has been a member and promoter of various youth and trade union organisations, and organisations that defend the Catalan language. He has been an active member of several left-wing, pro-independence organisations since 1970. He has been a member of Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya (Republican Left of Catalonia) since 1989 and has held a number of executive posts.

He was a member of the Mixed Commission for State-Generalitat Transfers from 1993 to 1995, became a deputy for ERC in the Catalan Parliament in 1995 and was spokesperson for the group in Parliament from 1999 to 2004. On 15 October 2004 he was appointed Minister for Trade, Tourism and Consumer Affairs by the President of the Government of Catalonia and took up the post on the following day. Following the Catalan parliamentary elections on 1 November 2006, he was elected deputy, but resigned when he was appointed Minister for Innovation, Universities and Enterprise.