A progressive social thinker and advocate, Lionel Jospin is one of the most respected figures in French and European political life. Among his 21 years in politics, his five years as Prime Minister (1997-2002) are widely viewed as a decisive period for economic growth and social peace. Perhaps best known for implementing the 35-hour working week in France, the Jospin government also paved the way for the French adoption of the Euro, provided universal health insurance for those on the lowest incomes, promoted the representation of women in politics, expanded the social security system, and introduced civil partnerships between two people, including same-sex couples. Other progressive reforms included improvements to social benefits, increases in the minimum wage and expansions to healthcare and education. Upon losing the first round of presidential elections in 2002, Jospin retired from active politics. But not from public life: since his retirement he has authored a number of books and publications.

In this public lecture, Jospin will draw on the key themes and arguments presented in his latest book Le Mal napoléonien (Editions du Seuil, 2014).

This event is free and open to the public. Registration is required. The lecture will be followed by a book signing and cocktail reception.

Hosted by the Research School of Humanities and the Arts, ANU Centre for European Studies and the Embassy of France

Register for this event through EventBrite: http://bit.ly/jospin

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