



The News

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by Sarah Heath

France is seeing serious rainfall in certain areas and an orange alert for flood risk and storms has been issued in five départements: the Isère, the Drôme, the Ardèche, the Hérault and the Gard, where a man went missing for several hours. The 65-year-old was found safe and well after having spent several hours in floodwater.

Météo France confirmed that record levels fell – more than two months-worth in just three hours. The Interior Minister announced yesterday that a state of natural disaster has been declared for next week for about 60 separate areas. More violent storms are expected today and rainfall of 80-100mm can be expected in parts.

Mandatory vaccinations for those in the healthcare system comes into force as of today. If caregivers and health personnel have not received at least one dose, they will be suspended from their position without pay.

In a speech which lasted a little over an hour, the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, took stock of the situation in the EU and looked at future projects within the bloc. She announced that the EU will make a donation of 200 million doses of the Covid vaccine to third-world countries, and release €100 million of additional humanitarian aid for Afghanistan as well as proposing a law against violence to women by the end of the year. There will be a summit on European defense which will take place in 2022.

After Paris and Lyon, it's now the turn of Bordeaux to reduce the speed limits on its roads. Mayor Pierre Hurmic announced this morning that the speed would be limited to 30 km/h for vehicles driving through the city, except for a few major roads. The objective is to lessen noise pollution and increase safety.

And finally in football news, PSG is playing away against Bruges in the Champions League with high hopes of a good performance by the big three – Messi, Neymar and Mbappé. The match kicks off at nine o'clock.