



The News ©

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by Nia Cason

Nine dead on the Mediterranean coast after the bad weather that hit the south of France. Five people have died on the beaches of Hérault, two people in Aude, and two others in the Bouches-du-Rhône. The strong swell, carried by thunderstorms, wind, and rain is largely responsible for these tragedies.

In a new major success in the fight against terrorist groups in the Sahel, the leader of the jihadist group Islamic State in the Great Sahara has been killed by French forces. Emmanuel Macron announced this last night on Twitter. The French President hailed "all the heroes who died for France in the Serval and Barkhane operations".

Also in the news today, exceptional state aid to be offered to the most disadvantaged. Prime Minister Jean Castex will today announce an increase of 100 euros in the energy check this year to help them to pay their energy bill in the face of rising prices. Almost 6 million households are affected.

And the start of the ecological primary: online votes for this first round will be open from today. The 122,000 party members registered have until Sunday to choose their candidate for the presidential election. There are five in the running, including Delphine Batho, Sandrine Rousseau, Éric Piolle, Yannick Jadot, and Jean-Marc Governatori.

Also in politics, the Socialist Party will today vote to choose its next First Secretary. The candidate Olivier Faure is widely favored.

Paris hospitals have been victims of a cyberattack. The personal data of more than a million patients have been stolen, AP-HP said last night. Patients who were tested against Covid in the Île-de-France last year were targeted. The hackers recovered their identity, social security number, and contact details. All those concerned will be informed individually in the coming days.

And finally, a successful takeoff for the first tourist space mission of Space X. Four civilians flew off last night from Florida, heading to space. They will stay in orbit for three days.