



The News ©

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by Emma Phillips

The health organisation SOS Médecins is on a 24 hour strike as of this morning. SOS Médecins is demanding an increase in the price of home visits. Health workers there want the price to increase to 56 euros for a daytime home visit, whereas the current price is 35 euros.

Emmanuel Macron is visiting the international restaurant, hotel and food fair, the SIRHA in Lyon today. The President will meet with representatives from the hospitality sector, which took a major hit during the covid crisis. Today, Macron is expected to announce that restaurant workers will be exempt from paying tax on tips received via bank cards in 2022. The measure aims to transform restaurant tips from change found on tables to an attractive additional salary, at a time when bosses are struggling to recruit new staff.

Jean Castex will present a new skills investment plan today, which will have the Prime Minister set his sights on the country's 1.4 million job seekers in 2022. The plan should address how to solve the current recruitment problems in certain sectors, by providing training to existing employees and job seekers.

And finally, Angela Merkel is to step down after 16 years as Chancellor of Germany. In a historic election, the Social Democratic Party managed a slight win over Merkel's bloc, Christian Democratic Union and Christian Social Union. Yesterday's vote saw the CDU suffer one of the worst results in its party history. With 25.9% of the vote, the Social Democratic Party still fell considerably short of the majority necessary to govern alone. The coming days will see a new coalition take shape.