



The News

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by Sarah Heath

The Austrian government has taken the decision to implement firm new measures in the battle against Covid. Lockdown conditions will come into play for the entire population as of next week as figures of the virus continue to rise across Europe. Such a stringent ruling had been limited to those who had not had the vaccine. In addition, being vaccinated will become compulsory as of February the 1st.

In France, further evidence of a fifth wave is becoming increasingly evident. The number of classes forced to close because of the virus is at its highest since September. Over 4,000 classes are out of action compared to 1,250 one month ago. Over 20,000 newly-confirmed cases have been reported across France in the past 24 hours. For the time being, there are no new changes due to be announced and in the Voix du Nord newspaper today, an article states that President Macron is not currently considering new lockdown measures.

The French Head of State is visiting the Hauts de France over the coming four days. Today, he is in the Nord and will meet with patients and caregivers.

Unemployment figures have stabilised in the third quarter of 2021. The rate is currently sitting at 8% according to INSEE data. This is the equivalent of 2.4 million people out of work which is around the same level as before the health crisis.

A verdict will be given today for the crimes allegedly committed by David Ramault. His trial has been underway since the start of the week in the Nord over the kidnapping, rape and murder of 12-year-old Angelique. If found guilty, a life sentence is expected.

And finally, in football news, it is the start of the 14th day of Ligue 1 with a match between Monaco and Lille. These two teams are both currently in the middle of the table. Kick off is at 9 p.m.