



## **The News ©**

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*by Nia Cason*

Olivier Véran is due to speak today after the defense council to announce the new measures put in place in the territory to fight against the fifth wave of COVID-19. Several suggestions have already been made, such as opening the booster dose to all adults and reducing the delay from 6 to 5 months. The validity of the PCR tests will also be shortened to 24 hours instead of 72 hours.

In Martinique, protests are not weakening against the health pass. Demonstrators installed roadblocks on the main roads on Wednesday evening. This mobilization has become violent in some neighborhoods. A meeting between union representatives, the prefect, and the president of the territorial community of Martinique is scheduled today.

Twenty-seven immigrants died yesterday when their boat sank whilst trying to reach the UK. Among them, men, women but also children. Four smugglers were arrested by the police. Interior Minister Gérald Darmanin visited the site. A consultation meeting with 8 ministers is scheduled for today.

Jean Castex announced new measures to fight violence against women. A thousand accommodation places will be made available as of next year, and the Grand Danger telephone system will be put in place, with 5,000 new devices. The Nous Toutes collective is organizing several events across the country. On this occasion, the government has launched the “plainte hors les murs” system, which should allow victims of domestic violence to contact a third party.

Parliament has validated the inflation allowance of 100 euros. This is planned by the government to fight against rising prices, especially energy, and concerns 38 million French people. This check will be distributed at the end of next month for people who receive less than 2,500 euros salary.