



The News December 2nd 12pm© by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

The Omicron variant has indeed arrived in metropolitan France: A first confirmed case was recorded in IIe de France. According to the Regional Health Agency, the man – aged between 50 and 60 - tested positive on November 25th and is not vaccinated. He resident in Seine-et-Marne and was returning from a stay in Nigeria. His wife also tested positive, but it is not sure if she has the new South African variant. Sequencing is underway, while according to the ARS, both have remained in isolation since their return to France.

The finalists of the right-wing primary will soon be known. Votes for the first round of Congress to designate the LR presidential candidate end at 2 p.m. and the results will be announced 30 minutes later. As a reminder, five candidates compete for the right: Michel Barnier, Xavier Bertrand, Eric Ciotti, Valérie Pécresse and Philippe Juvin.

Emmanuel Macron is in Strasbourg. The Head of State is taking part in a ceremony in tribute to Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former President of the Republic who died as a result of Covid-19 a year ago to the day. The ceremony is taking place in the European Parliament, where the leaders of the three European institutions are also expected, in addition to the German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier. Emmanuel Macron is expected to speak around noon.

In the rest of the news, the region Haut-de-France is putting pressure on the SNCF. It has decided to suspend its payments, pending an improvement in the quality of service. The region points to numerous dysfunctions, including delays, cancellations but also a lack of equipment and personnel.

And a tragedy unfolded in the United States: A policeman shot and killed a man in a wheelchair suspected of having stolen a toolbox from a supermarket. The agent in Tucson, Arizona, was a security guard. He fired nine bullets at the victim who was in his sixties.

And then an exceptional discovery was made in Chile where paleontologists announced that they have discovered a new dinosaur. The animal supposedly lived 75 million years ago, was about two meters long, weighed 150 kilograms and was herbivorous.