



## The News

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*by Emma Phillips*

“Slow down the festive season”; this is the message from the government to the public in the face of rising cases and hospital admissions. The country is being called to be sparing with their social calendar in the run up to Christmas and limit the opportunity to mix with lots of people. Yesterday’s conseil de défense saw a series of extra measures including all schoolchildren going back to wearing masks indoors and outdoors and the opening of vaccination slots for 11-15 year olds. Jean Castex has also announced that from Friday, all nightclubs across the country will shut their doors for four weeks.

Tension continues in Guadeloupe as yesterday three gendarmes were injured by demonstrators throwing stones and two people were arrested for obstruction and violence towards people in authority. Five others were arrested for trying to force a roadblock.

Five people remain stranded in the rubble after a building collapsed in Sanary-sur-Mer in the Var. The building fell after an explosion. Firefighters are on the scene and have so far rescued four people.

Seven people who were arrested on Sunday during protests at Eric Zemmour’s first presidential campaign rally had their police custodies extended last night. An investigation has been opened by the prosecutor’s office in Bobigny for violent behaviour. The protestors had gathered with others from the charity SOS Racisme at the far-right candidate’s event which drew a crowd of 15,000. Members of the charity will also be filing a complaint today.

A bill aimed at bolstering the right to abortion will be debated by the Senate in mid-January, with a view to it being passed by the end of the current government’s mandate. The text, which sets out to extend the deadline for the procedure to 14 weeks of pregnancy, was adopted on Tuesday in the Assemblée Nationale.

And finally, to football and the pressure is...off for Paris Saint Germain this evening in the Champions League. They can play their match against Bruges safe in the knowledge that they have already qualified from the group stage and are sailing on in to the Round of 16. Tonight’s match kicks off at 6.45pm.