



## **The News ©**

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*by Nia Cason*

The European Union yesterday unveiled a battery of sanctions after Vladimir Putin's decision to recognize the independence of the pro-Russian separatist territories in Ukraine. Sanctions will concern in particular the 351 Russian deputies who voted for the independence of these territories. The United States have decided to stop all financing with the Russian elites. Canada has also announced a "series of economic sanctions" against Russia. Ottawa will notably "prohibit Canadians from carrying out any foreign transactions" with pro-Russian separatist territories.

In the Netherlands, the end of the hostage-taking in Amsterdam. It lasted several hours last night in an Apple Store. The armed man was arrested by the police. He was injured during the intervention and the hostages were freed in the evening.

In France, the race for sponsorships continues. The environmental candidate Yannick Jadot has, in turn, obtained the 500 signatures necessary to stand for the presidential election. The deadline for sponsorships is March 4th.

Parliament will today vote in favor of the bill that aims to strengthen the right to abortion. The deputies should increase the window for abortion from 12 to 14 weeks. The text will be voted on definitively this afternoon at the Assemblée nationale.

The government is releasing funds from the extreme emergency relief fund. These funds will help those affected by storms Eunice and Franklin, which affected the Hauts-de-France and Normandy last weekend.

And finally, 1 year after their separation, the group Daft Punk announced yesterday the reissue of their first album, "Homework", released 25 years ago. The announcement was accompanied by a beautiful gift for their fans, a concert recorded in 1997 in Los Angeles was broadcast live on their Twitch channel. Up to 170,000 people were connected at the same time.