



## The News

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*by Noele Bouazouni-Prier*

Emmanuel Macron is now convinced that the objective of Vladimir Putin is to take control of all of Ukraine. The two men spoke once again today on the phone for an hour and a half. The Russian president is determined to continue his uncompromising offensive against what they call the nationalists of Ukraine. Vladimir Putin has also threatened to add more demands to his negotiations with Kyiv – negotiations which resumed this evening at the Belarusian border. The hope of a ceasefire seems to be fading away. The worst is yet to come according to the Elysée.

In this context of war in Ukraine, the presidential campaign in France is not making headlines. The candidates have until tomorrow evening, 6 p.m. to submit their 500 signatures. For Emmanuel Macron, the suspense comes to an end this evening: the Head of State will formalize his candidacy in the form of a letter addressed to the French. It will be put online in the next few hours on several regional press sites and will then be published tomorrow in paper editions.

In the rest of the news: On March 14, the vaccination pass will be suspended in mainland France. This was announced today by the Prime Minister. The obligation to wear a mask indoors, except in public transportation, will also be suspended. On the other hand, the health pass will still be enforced in health establishments, as well as the obligation for caregivers to be vaccinated.

The National Anti-Terrorist Prosecutor's Office was seized after the attack on Yvan Colonna yesterday in the prison of Arles. Sentenced to life in prison for the murder of the prefect Erignac, the Corsican shepherd was violently attacked by another prisoner. The 36-year-old man, who has fought in the war in Afghanistan, evoked blasphemy of Yvan Colonna to explain his attack. The suspect is still in custody.

And to finish: the large French companies are on the front line in the fight for equality between men and women. They are ranked 1st in the Equi-lipe barometer published by the newspaper *Les Echos*. In total, 19 criteria were taken into account, from the place of women in management positions to wage gaps and including measures to combat sexual harassment.