



The News ©

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by Emma Phillips

France has won another gold medal at the Paralympic Games this morning. Maxime Mon-tagioni bagged gold in the snowboard banked slalom, the last of the snowboarding events for this year's Games. This morning's snowboard events were brought forward by a day due to weather conditions. France remains fourth in the record table, with six gold medals won in Beijing.

The European Union has 5 years to achieve energy independence from Russia. This announcement came yesterday from the President of the European Commission. The 27 member countries of the European Union will continue their meeting today in Versailles, a summit that has been entirely dedicated to the war in Ukraine and its consequences for Europe. Otherwise, the possibility of new member countries has also come up. The EU will examine applications from Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. An expedited accession of Ukraine has already been rejected by member countries.

On day 16 of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Russian army continues its advance. Russian tanks are still approaching more of the city of Kyiv. Yesterday they arrived to the northeastern edge of the Ukrainian capital.

Moscow has announced the opening of humanitarian corridors to Russia, every day from 10 a.m. The Ukrainian president Zelenskiy has accused Russian forces of attacking a humanitarian corridor to Mariupol. Negotiations on a ceasefire have failed between the heads of Russian and Ukrainian diplomacy.

In France, the government is anticipating up to "100,000 refugees" who have fled Ukraine to arrive to the country in the coming weeks. France has already received more than 7,200 people, according to data from the Ministry of Interior. In total, more than 2 million people have been displaced since the start of the Russian invasion.

The beginning of next week will see considerable easing of the health protocol in the country's schools. From Monday, wearing a mask will no longer be compulsory. Contact sports will also be authorised. One consequence is that all unmasked children in a class will be considered contact cases if one of their class mates tests positive.

And finally, to football and the first leg of the round of 16 of the Europa League. Monaco lost 2-0 playing away to Braga.