



The News

March 31st, 6pm©

by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

There's a new food scandal: Frozen pizzas from the Buitoni brand have caused 75 contaminations with E. coli. The bacterium attacks the digestive system and in particular the kidneys. At least two children even died, others are in critical condition.

Also in the news, Vladimir Putin had announced it and he is making it official: The Russian President has just signed the decree imposing on so-called hostile countries the payment of gas in rubles. Existing gas contracts will be suspended if buyers from these countries do not respect the new payment conditions. These new rules will come into force tomorrow, but Europe does not intend to comply. According to the Minister of the Economy Bruno Le Maire, France and Germany are preparing for a potential stoppage of Russian gas imports.

Meanwhile NATO expects additional offensives in Ukraine. According to the Secretary General of the Alliance, the Russian forces are not withdrawing, but are repositioning. They are maintaining pressure on Kyiv. In Mariupol, the inhabitants, trapped, await the evacuation operation while the Russian Ministry of Defense has announced a ceasefire. The Red Cross says it is ready to direct these evacuations, on condition of obtaining guarantees in terms of security.

In France, the increase in the Smic will take place on May 1st. This automatic increase will range from 2.4 to 2.6%, depending on inflation, according to the Ministry of Labor. The exact increase will be known on April 15 when the INSEE will publish its final estimate of price increases in March.

And to finish 11 departments are under snow and ice weather alert: Part of the northern half of France, between the Orne and the North passing through the Seine-Maritime, but also in the south, in La Creuse, Puy de Dôme, Loire and Haute-Loire.