



The News ©

April 14th, 8am

by Emma Phillips

The word “genocide” is being used more and more to describe Russia’s actions in Ukraine. Yesterday, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said it was “absolutely right” to consider Russia’s behaviour as genocide. Under international law, genocide is defined as an intent to destroy – in whole or in part – a national, ethnic, racial or religious group. Until now, the Canadian leader had refused to use the word. Earlier this week, US President Joe Biden accused Russia of “trying to wipe out the idea of even being Ukrainian”. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy called Biden’s use of the term “true words from a true leader”. Meanwhile Emmanuel Macron has said he is being “prudent” with the use of terms and stopped short of using the word genocide when questioned, yet he agrees that Russians have committed war crimes in their offensive.

Joe Biden has authorised a massive shipment of military aid to Ukraine. The United States will deliver armored vehicles, artillery and even helicopters. This is much heavier equipment than what has been delivered so far.

A Russian cruiser has been set alight. The flagship of the Black Sea Fleet sustained serious damage after an explosion yesterday. According to the governor of Odessa, a Ukrainian missile is what caused the explosion. Russian forces say they will ensure that an investigation will be underway.

“I gave up on the plan out of humanity, not out of fear”. These were the words of Salah Abdeslam yesterday giving, for the first time, his account of the events of the November 2015 attacks in Paris. Abdeslam is the only survivor of the commando group and has confirmed that on the evening in question, he went into a café in the city’s 18th arrondissement and then “gave up” on the idea of blowing himself up. His questioning is due to resume this afternoon. The trial on the attacks is ongoing at the Special Assize Court in Paris.

Students at the Sorbonne University in Paris have barricaded themselves in, in protest at the election result. They say that they don't want Emmanuel Macron or Marine Le Pen as president. The student assembly first occupied the university building on Tuesday and last night at 11.30, they were still there. Other Parisian universities could also join this protest movement. The second round of votes will be taking place on April 24th.

And finally, to football and it's two English clubs up against two Spanish clubs in the semi-finals of the Champions League. Liverpool will be playing Villareal after a 3-0 draw last night against Benfica. In the other semi-final Match, Manchester will meet Real Madrid after a 0-0 draw against Atletico de Madrid.