



The News ©

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by Emma Phillips

Today marks three years since the fire at the Notre Dame cathedral in Paris. The cathedral, one of the oldest monuments in Paris, went up in flames on April 15 2019. It is currently under restoration and should be ready for the public in 2024. Today Emmanuel Macron is expected to visit the construction site.

In the run-up to the second round of the presidential elections, Emmanuel Macron has had an old mentor speak up in his support. Former President, François Hollande, has voiced his support for his former Minister of the Economy. Macron was part of Hollande's cabinet before setting up his own party, la République En Marche. Hollande is calling on the public to vote for Macron in the second round. Meanwhile, Marine Le Pen is calling on her supporters to block her rival. The candidate for the far right Rassemblement Nationale party held her first meeting between the two rounds of votes yesterday in Avignon. Marine Le Pen said she held Macron's five-year term in contempt.

Students at the Sorbonne are still barricaded inside their university building in protest at the election. The university in Paris' 5th arrondissement is now closed at least until Saturday April 23, the day before the second round takes place. Yesterday saw 150 students at the Science Po faculty in Paris try to block access to their own building before they were dislodged by far-right activists.

Russia's ship, the Moskva, has sunk in the Black Sea after a fire onboard caused by the explosion of ammunition. Russia's Ministry of Defense in Moscow has made the official announcement. The Ukrainian authorities say they hit the flagship of the Russian fleet with cruise missiles.

In the United States, Florida has now banned abortion from 15 weeks. The law will come into force on July 1st. Exceptions to the new ruling include if the fetus has a fatal abnormality or if the pregnancy carries a serious risk to the mother's health.

And finally to football and Lyon lost badly in the second leg of the quarter final of the Europa League yesterday. Lyon was beaten at home 3-0 by West Ham. Marseille however is through to the semi-finals after beating Paok Salonika 1-0.