



## The News

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by Noele Bouazouni-Prier



Russia has begun its offensive to take control of the Donbass region in Ukraine. This was announced by Volodymyr Zelensky last night in a speech broadcast on Telegram. Kremlin troops have entered the city from Kremina about fifty kilometers from the Ukrainian capital of Donbass.

And on the diplomatic front, the United States and its allies are meeting today. This virtual meeting with the American President Joe Biden will focus on the Russian offensive in Ukraine. The White House says they will discuss, I quote, the ongoing support for Ukraine and efforts to make sure Russia is held accountable for its actions.

In the Middle East, Israeli forces carried out strikes in the Gaza Strip last night. This response comes after a rocket was fired from the Palestinian enclave. Hamas says it used its anti-aircraft defense to try to counter Israeli strikes which caused no casualties.

This week is the home stretch before the second round of the presidential election. Emmanuel Macron and Marine Le Pen will give all they have. The most important event of this decisive week is the great debate scheduled for tomorrow evening - A great debate that each of the candidates is preparing for. Marine Le Pen will be preparing away from the cameras for 24 hours. As for Emmanuel Macron, he may still be traveling today.

And on the eve of this event, on both sides supporters of the candidates are stepping up. On France 2 this morning the LR mayor of Perpignan, Louis Alliot, recognized that the debate was a very important moment, and that he hopes it will be serious and solemn. As for Emmanuel Macron, he garners new support from the daughter of Jacques Chirac, Claude, who published a press release to call to vote for the outgoing president.

And tourists are back in Paris two years after the beginning of the pandemic. For this Easter weekend, hotels have had a turnover similar to that of before covid, with occupancy rates at 100% in certain hotels and reservations multiplied by 4 according to the Union des Métiers et des Industries de l'Hôtellerie.