



The News

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by Sarah Heath

Former presidential candidate, Jean-Luc Mélenchon, announced at a Union Populaire event last night that he will not stand as MP for the Bouches-du-Rhône. He is handing over to his campaign manager, Manuel Bompard. As the legislatives approach, La République en Marche has put forward five new candidates including Elisabeth Moreno and Barbara Pompili.

And staying with politics, French Prime Minister, Jean Castex had a farewell dinner last with his government colleagues in the Matignon gardens. He said, "For me the adventure is over". He will officially resign from his post as of Sunday after his visit to the Vatican when he will represent France for the canonisation of the priest Charles Foucault.

The judicial investigation into the Buitoni pizza scandal opens today over the food poisoning of 75 people, including many children. The charges of manslaughter and involuntary injury as well as deception and endangerment of lives after victims contracted E. coli, will now be overseen by the investigating judge.

After 78 days of war, more than six million Ukrainians have fled their country – a figure announced by the High Commissioner for Refugees yesterday. Poland has taken in more than half of them. In the meantime, President Volodymyr Zelenski condemns the destruction of over 100 hospitals by the Russian army throughout his country. The Ukrainian president described such acts as barbaric in a speech he gave last night.

To football news, where French striker Karim Benzema has become the 2nd top scorer in the history of Real Madrid, tying with Raoul with a total of 323 goals. This includes one last night during Madrid's 6-0 victory against Levanté.

And finally to Cuba, where a day of national mourning has been decreed for today after an explosion at a hotel which killed 45 people including four children. Flags will be lowered across the country in tribute.