



The News

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by Sarah Heath

"I am convinced that the dictator will lose" – this was the declaration last night by Volodymyr Zelensky at the opening of the Cannes Film Festival. On a giant screen, the Ukrainian president used multiple cinematic references to denounce the war started by Russia against his country. In front of actors and directors, the Ukrainian leader called on the world of cinema not to be silent in the face of this conflict. "We need a new Chaplin who will prove that cinema is not silent in the face of war".

In the meantime, in a first since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine, a Russian soldier is on trial from today for war crimes. He is accused of having killed a 62-year-old unarmed civilian on February the 28th in the North-East of Ukraine. The 21-year-old man faces life imprisonment.

And in this context of war, Finland and Sweden will submit their candidacies to NATO this morning. The two Nordic countries wish to guarantee their security against Russia by joining the Atlantic alliance.

Following the trial of the attacks of November the 13th 2015, during the resumption yesterday of the hearings, two members of Eagles of Death, the group which played at the Bataclan the evening of the tragedy, gave their testimonies. They also wanted to pay tribute to their "90 friends" killed more than 6 years ago.

Bikers have been denouncing what they consider an unfair new regulation of mandatory controle technique of motorbikes which will be implemented on October the 1st. The decision was made by the conseil d'Etat, while the government had decided to postpone this European obligation until 2023 – a postponement which is "unjustified" as ruled by the highest French administrative court.

And finally to football and a cruel end to the season for Paris FC who will not move up to Ligue 1 next season, having been beaten last night by Sochaux 2 goals to 1. Paris FC led the scoreboard but missed two penalties during the match. Sochaux will now face Auxerre on Friday.