The News
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by Sarah Heath

The alliance party, the Nouvelle Union Populaire, Ecologique et Socialiste, has accused the government of distorting the result of the first round of the législatives. Jean-Luc Mélenchon, leader of the far-left party La France Insoumise, has accused the Ministry of the Interior and in particular Gérald Darmanin, of not counting certain NUPES candidates and therefore giving the government a first round win – albeit by a short margin.

Temperatures cross the country are rising to heatwave levels this week. French citizens living in the south-west of the country and in the Rhône valley can expect temperatures to hit the high thirties. And in Aquitaine and Toulouse, it may even reach 40 degrees on Thursday. The Interior Ministry has instructed local préfectures to take measures to ensure that local populations are protected where necessary.

A knock-on effect of the heat is the number of fires breaking out across parts of France. In the Gard, 200 hectares of vegetation burned throughout yesterday afternoon and in the Grau-de-Roi, fire destroyed 60 properties on a campsite.

In Ukraine, the Russians are gaining ground. Kyiv has announced that its army has abandoned the centre of Severodonetsk following a new Russian offensive. The bombardments continue in this key area in the east of the country. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky says the 'human cost' of the Battle of Severodonetsk is 'terrifying'.

It is with the Ukraine war in mind that President Emmanuel Macron is heading to Romania today. The Head of State is paying a visit to 500 French soldiers on an air base in this part of Europe.

And finally to football news and a month to forget for the French team who lost 1-0 last night in their UEFA Nations League match at home against Croatia. The French team has not won a single game in the competition and are already eliminated. Looking ahead, they now know their last opponent for the next World Cup – Australia, who came out winners last night against Peru.