



The News

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by Sarah Heath

Nearly 17,000 hectares have so far been burned by fires in the Gironde. A blaze continues to spread across the region near Landiras and Teste de Buche. Yesterday, 16,000 people had to be evacuated from the surrounding areas. This makes a total of 32,000 people who have had to be evacuated since the start of the forest fires a week ago.

Investigators have suggested that the Landiras fire could have been started criminally. A man suspected of being responsible for starting it was placed in police custody yesterday for questioning. Last Tuesday, a witness saw a suspect hastily leave the place where the forest fire started and which then multiplied. The investigation has not yet determined whether more than one suspect is to blame.

And staying with news on fires in France, another serious fire broke out in the early afternoon yesterday in Finistère. Brittany is battling new temperature records with more than 40 degrees in northern Finistère, 40 degrees in Rennes, and more than 39 in Brest. Nearly 600 hectares have already been destroyed in the Monts d'Arrée.

In the rest of the news. On the first day of debate over how to ease the cost of living for French citizens, there are already disagreements over the action to be taken. MPs yesterday began to review the bill which provides for a series of measures to combat inflation. NUPES are pushing for help with household income and want to increase the minimum wage to €1,500 per month. The Republican Party has suggested capping the price of petrol at €1.50 per litre.

Albania and North Macedonia may soon be new members of the EU. The 27 current member states have given their agreement yesterday for negotiations on the inclusion of the two countries. The leaders of these two states are expected today in Brussels to formally open the talks, however the full process can take years.

And finally to football and the Euros where France drew 1-1 against Iceland. France now move into the quarter finals.