



## The News

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*by Sarah Heath*

Fourteen départements are still on heatwave alerts this morning. This includes the area around Alsace and the south-east of France which will continue to experience high temperatures for several days according to Météo France. The western side of the country is starting to cool down slightly. Orange alerts have also been issued for nine north-east départements for a risk of thunderstorms this afternoon, some of which could be accompanied by hail.

This break in the heatwave in the west of France has facilitated the work of firefighters yesterday in the Gironde who have been battling fires for a week. The toll so far amounts to 20,000 hectares which have been burnt. President Macron will visit the stricken area today during which he is due to announce new firefighting measures. The man suspected of having started the Landiras fire has had his custody extended for further questioning.

In other news, Laurent Nuñez has been promoted to head up the Paris police headquarters. His appointment is still to be ratified by the Council of Ministers during a session being held this morning. Nuñez who is currently the National Intelligence Coordinator will succeed Didier Lallement, who is leaving the post today. This is the end of a 3-year mandate which has been marked by many controversies such as the management of rioting during the Champions League final at the Stade de France, and the violence committed by police against Gilet Jaunes protestors during demonstrations in 2019.

Elon Musk and Twitter have a hearing lined up in court in October. The trial of the American billionaire was set yesterday. He is being prosecuted for having broken his commitment to buy the social network for \$44 billion. The hearing will last for 5 days.

In news of this year's Tour de France, Hugo Houle was victorious yesterday in the streets of Foix on the final stretch of the 16th stage. Dane Jonas Vingegaard is still the holder of the yellow jersey. Today, competitors will cycle 129.7 kilometres between Saint Gaudens and Peyragudes.

And finally, France has won two gold medals at the World Fencing Championships. Ysaora Thibus has been crowned world champion and Romain Cannone has won a gold just one year after winning an Olympic gold medal.