



## The News

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*by Sarah Heath*

Europe wants a solid response after the leaks on the Nord Stream 2 gas pipelines. These pipelines connect Russia to Germany and have been affected since Monday by leaks possibly created by explosions. The European Commission President, Ursula Von der Leyen, has suggested sabotage might be the cause. The Ukrainian government accuses Russia of being the source of these leaks.

Russia has declared victory in four Ukrainian regions which were previously occupied during referendums about a total annexation. Results came through without any appeal, in particular in the region of Donetsk where more than 99% of voters voted "yes" for annexation to Russia. These referendums have not been recognized by western European states.

Cuba has been plunged into darkness after a widespread power cut caused by Hurricane Ian. Gusts of more than 200 km/h were recorded. High winds caused great damage to the electricity network but to date no casualties have been reported.

Emmanuel Macron will have to decide on the procedures to push through pension reform. It will be under discussion at a dinner tonight at the Elysée and the final decision will be made by the end of the week.

MPs from left-wing and the ecology political parties are refusing to participate in a football match tonight between a team made up of members of the Assembly and a team made up of former professional players. They have stated that they will not play in the same side as National Rally MPs, who join the French Assembly team for the first time. They say that it is "a trivialization of the far right".

And finally to international football where fans witnessed a great victory for Brazil last night at the Parc des Princes in Paris. They won 5 goals to 1 against Tunisia. The match was disrupted by racist acts coming from the stands: a banana was thrown at Brazilian striker Richarlison.

