



## The News

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*by Sarah Heath*

Employees from the transport, education, commerce and private sectors have called to go on strike today. Protests have been the initiative of many unions around wage increases and to denounce requisitions at the Total petrol refineries. The government met yesterday at the Elysée to try to find a solution to the fuel crisis.

Strike action is also continuing at nuclear power plants where social movement has been underway since the end of September. There are now 10 sites where workers are taking strike action which affects many electricity and gas companies such as RTE, Enedis, Engie and ERDF. Despite this, no power cuts are to be expected.

The recordings of the black boxes just before the crash of the Rio-Paris flight were broadcast yesterday at the Paris Criminal Court. The hearing was behind closed doors and revealed the stress and incomprehension of the pilots in the face of technical failures which downed the aircraft but who nevertheless tried until the end to regain control of the plane. Airbus and Air France are accused of manslaughter over the accident in which 228 people lost their lives on June 1st, 2009.

Former employees of the retailer Camaïeu will receive a €6,000 bonus following the judicial liquidation of the ready-to-wear chain. Around 2,100 people lost their jobs on October 1st. A plan was presented yesterday which also provides aid of up to €4,450 for training, business creation and greater geographical mobility for employees.

Liz Truss has defended her position, 6 weeks after coming to power. The British Prime Minister spoke in an interview with the BBC yesterday when she apologized for her mistakes, after several u-turns on promises made during her campaign, and the overturning of the disastrous mini-budget. She stated that she would not resign, "for the national interest".

And finally, at the age of 34, Karim Benzema has entered the pantheon of French football. He received the prestigious Ballon d'Or trophy last night to become the 5th Frenchman to receive the award.