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## The News

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by Noele Bouazouni-Prier



The trial of the Brussels attacks opened this morning, six years after the attacks at the airport and in the metro, which caused 32 deaths and more than 300 people injured. Nine people are being judged, including Salah Abdeslam. According to the Belgian federal prosecutor's office, there are more than 1,000 plaintiffs. The hearing began today with the formation of the popular jury. This trial, scheduled until June 2023, is the biggest ever organized before a Belgian Circuit Court.

Be careful if you plan on taking a train this weekend. The SNCF announces a strike by controllers from Friday to Sunday. A movement that will have a strong impact on traffic. The railway company will cancel 60% of its TGV and Intercités. The travelers concerned will be alerted.

The Court of Cassation has ruled that Willy Bardon will not be retried. The highest French court rejected the appeal of this man against his conviction to 30 years of criminal imprisonment - A conviction for the kidnapping, forcible confinement, rape and murder of Elodie Kulik in 2002. Willy Bardon, who continues to claim his innocence, was arrested 10 years after the murder.

Electricity consumption continues to drop, with a decrease of nearly 7% last week compared to the average for previous years. The government has multiplied calls these past weeks to encourage the French to consume less in this context of energy crisis.

In Rugby, the penalty for Antoine Dupont has been reduced. Expelled during the France - South Africa match for a dangerous tackle, the captain of the *XV de France* had received a 4-week suspension. He appealed and his penalty was reduced by half. He will be able to play again this weekend with the Stade Toulousain.

And in soccer, the last group match of the World Cup for *les Bleus* today with France Tunisia in Qatar. Whatever the result, the French team is guaranteed to play in the round of 16.