



The News

January 19th 2pm©

by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

Professionals of the national education system are mobilized against the pension reform. According to the Ministry of National Education, 42% of teachers are on strike in elementary schools and 34% in secondary education. The Snes-FSU, the first secondary school union, 65% of middle school and high school teachers are on strike, with peaks at more than 80% in certain establishments. Also, several high schools are blocked by students.

In transportation, at the SNCF, 1 TGV out of 3 is running on the North and South-East axis, 1 TGV out of 4 on the East axis, and 1 out of 5 on the Atlantic axis. In Paris, metro traffic is also very disrupted. In the air, 1 flight out of 5 is cancelled at Orly.

In the streets, nearly 200 demonstrations are organized to fight the reform. Thousands of people are demonstrating in Nantes, Montpellier and Toulouse. In Paris, the demonstration will leave at 2 p.m. from *Place de la Republic*. In a video posted on Twitter, Jean-Luc Mélenchon talks about a major stage in the social history of France. He evokes exasperation with the government.

Meanwhile, Emmanuel Macron is in Barcelona for a France-Spain summit. Welcomed by Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez, they are to sign a Treaty of Cooperation and Friendship. Emmanuel Macron is accompanied by a dozen of ministers.

The group Go Sport is placed in receivership by the commercial court of Grenoble. Two administrators and two legal representatives have been appointed for an initial six-month observation period. The sporting goods brand employs more than 2 000 people.

And Volodymyr Zelensky delivered a speech at the Davos economic forum. The Ukrainian president reiterated his intention to take over the region of Donbass but also the Crimea annexed by Russia in 2014. Volodymyr Zelensky also criticized Germany, which is reluctant to allow deliveries of heavy tanks.