



The News

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by Sarah Heath

Today's strike action across France will be the tenth in the last three months as another day of demonstrations against pension reform is planned. The authorities fear renewed violence, particularly in Paris, as more than 1,000 radical protestors are expected in the capital, some of whom have come from abroad and others who were already present in Saint-Soline this weekend. Gérald Darmanin announced unprecedented security measures with 13,000 police and gendarmes deployed, including 5,500 in Paris alone.

On the transport side, SNCF services promise to be severely disrupted once again, with 3 out of 5 TGVs and 1 out of 2 TERs on average. It will also be complicated at the RATP as well as in the airports, until 6am on Thursday. And in primary schools, nearly 30% of teachers are expected to strike according to union forecasts, albeit at a lower rate than last Thursday.

The end of traditional car engines has been confirmed in Europe for 2035. Ambassadors of the 27 EU countries approved the measure yesterday. This latest measure will force new cars to no longer emit any CO₂, which will effectively prohibit petrol, diesel, and hybrids cars in favour of all electric. The text will be put on the agenda today at a meeting of energy ministers.

A bill to facilitate obtaining a driving licence has just been adopted by the National Assembly and allows for several measures but also sees the proposal of a new digital platform for young people to get their permit, including information on how to identify all the financial aid available to them.

And finally to football news, where the French team have confirmed their place in the qualifying group for the Euros. France beat Ireland 1/0 last night thanks to a goal by Benjamin Pavard. Their next matches will be in June, against Gibraltar and Greece.