



## The News April 5<sup>th</sup> 2pm© by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

The meeting lasted less than an hour. The inter-union walked out. Elisabeth Borne had invited them to discuss many subjects but as the Prime Minister refused to reconsider the pension reform, the unions left the meeting.

This meeting comes on the eve of the 11th day of mobilization against reform. The leader of the CFDT Laurent Berger calls on the French to massively take to the streets in order to to maintain pressure on the government.

Have the police used excessive force during the latest protests? This is a question that Gérald Darmanin had to answer this morning before a commission of the National Assembly. The Minister of the Interior once again came to the defense of the police and gendarmes. He also denounced the involvement of what he calls the ultra-left, especially in Sainte Soline 10 days ago during a demonstration against the mega basin project.

Emmanuel Macron is in China. The Head of State arrived in Beijing this morning for a 3-day visit, during which he will meet with the French community this afternoon. Tomorrow will be a day of discussions with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping and the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen.

And then there's soccer tonight, with the 1st semi-final of the Coupe de France. The defending champion Nantes receives Lyon. Kick-off at 9:10 p.m. Tomorrow the other semi-final will oppose Annecy to Toulouse.