



## The News

**April 17<sup>th</sup>, 8am** ©

*by Emma Phillips*

930 hectares have gone up in smoke over the past 24 hours in the Pyrénées-Orientales due to a devastating wildfire. The fire, between Cerbère and Banyuls-sur-Mer, is under control but is not yet fixed. There are still 500 more firefighters still to be mobilized. The Minister of the Interior, Gérald Darmanin, is expected on site this morning.

Emmanuel Macron will address the nation at 8 pm tonight on pension reform. The President will explain the months to come while public anger at the reform remains strong. Unions are planning to continue with strike days, including this Thursday and the inter-union will be meeting today, calling for massive protests on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Nearly fourteen years after the crash of the Rio-Paris flight, the court's decision is expected today. Airbus and Air France are on trial for manslaughter. The European manufacturer and the airline are contesting any fault related to the accident. The two companies could be fined 225,000 euros. The tragedy killed 228 people.

In Bordeaux, the driver who injured 13 people when he drove into a crowd on Friday evening has been taken into custody. The 32-year-old man lost control of his car during an improvised race. He will be tried in early June.

Vladimir Putin has hailed the “active” cooperation between Beijing and Moscow after meeting with the Chinese Defense Minister, Li Shangfu. The Minister met with the Russian President in the Kremlin. Since the start of the war with Ukraine, Beijing has claimed a neutral position and has never condemned the Russian invasion.

In football, Marseille have taken back second place in the Ligue 1 from Lens. Marseille won 3-1 last night against Troyes. At the end of day 31, PSG remains at the top of the leader board and took a major step towards bagging the title by winning against Lens.