



## The News April 20<sup>th</sup> 1pm© by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

A new trip and more protestors for Emmanuel Macron. After the Bas-Rhin, yesterday, the Head of State is visiting Hérault today. He is in Ganges, on the theme of education. Even before the arrival of the President, tensions broke out between the police and opponents of the pension reform. About 250 people gathered in front of the town hall square demanding the resignation of Emmanuel Macron.

Meanwhile, another day of anger among railway workers. There are disruptions at the SNCF, but no major upheaval. TGV traffic is almost normal and on average 4 TER out of 5 are circulating. In the Paris region, service is normal on RER A and B.

About sixty investigations have been opened by the IGPN since the beginning of the demonstrations against the pension reform. For the director of the police force, the restoration of order is complicated by the violent radicalization of certain individuals. The IGPN must determine whether the use of force by the police is legitimate or not.

Good news if you plan to have your household appliances repaired: The repair bonus will double on July 1. A way of encouraging consumers to repair rather than buy. The measure, set up for a little more than four months, has not met the expected success. Only 20,000 defective machines have been repaired by certified stores. Hence the decision to double the bonus. For example, the aid will go from 30 to 60 euros for a television.

The Secretary General of NATO is on a surprise visit to Kiev. For the first time since the beginning of the conflict, Jens Stoltenberg is in the Ukrainian capital. He paid tribute to the Ukrainian soldiers who died in combat.

And then it's D-Day for Starship. After a technical problem on Monday, the rocket built by SpaceX will take off this afternoon from Texas. Starship is the largest rocket in the world and is designed to eventually travel to the Moon and even Mars. This first take-off will be used to collect as much data as possible to improve the next rockets and the next launches.