



The News

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by Sarah Heath

Keeping hopes alive for a reversal on the decision made on France's retirement age, the Constitutional Council will announce its decision today on a request for the shared initiative referendum filed by the left. This comes three weeks after the rejection of the first. The left is still trying through this procedure, to bring the retirement age back down to 62, despite having no illusions about the likely decision.

Another subject on the table today is whether to make it an obligation to put French and European flags on the pediments of town halls. This proposal, initiated by majority MPs, will be debated before the Law Commission of the Assembly. La France Insoumise and the National Rally parties are against it. They want the Town Halls to choose themselves whether or not to fly the European flag on the front of their buildings.

In Toulon, the news of the day is the election of a new mayor. This has come about as the city needs to replace Hubert Falco, who has been given a suspended sentence of three years in prison and ineligibility lasting five years for having claimed expenses, including meals and laundry bills, which were paid out of taxpayers' money.

Scooters and electric bicycles have once again been banned in the city centre of Nice this summer. The Town Hall has taken the decision to renew the decree put in place last year, which prohibited the circulation of motorized vehicles in pedestrian areas. The measure will come into effect on June the 1st.

The funeral of François Léotard will take place today in Fréjus. The former minister and mayor of the city died last week at the age of 81.

In the UK, a man has been held in custody since yesterday after being arrested outside Buckingham Palace for allegedly throwing objects such as shotgun cartridges into the grounds. This comes just three days before the coronation of Charles III.

In football news, the battle for second place in the Ligue 1 standings is not over yet. Lens are just one point behind Marseille thanks to a 1-0 victory over Toulouse last night. Everything will then be played for next Saturday during the clash between the the two top teams.

And finally to basketball news, where Monaco won its third Euro League quarter-final match against Maccabi Tel Aviv - 83 to 78. The Monegasques are only one victory away from reaching the last four in the competition.