



The News

July 21st, 9am ©

by Sarah Heath

The ecology organisation, Les Soulèvements de la Terre, are in the sights of the government. The Minister of the Interior will this morning formalize the dissolution of this environmental movement in the Council of Ministers. Gérald Darmanin has justified doing so after "violent actions" took place last March during an anti-agricultural demonstration in Sainte-Soline in the Deux-Sèvres. The leader of La France Insoumise, Jean-Luc Mélenchon, has said that these "militants must be listened to, and not repressed like the terrorists that they are not". Demonstrations are planned for later today.

There is a shred of hope for the tourist submarine which disappeared off the coast of Canada while on an expedition to explore the Titanic in the Atlantic. According to CNN, sounds described as "regular knocks" have been detected by the search teams' sonar. Five people are on board the missing submarine, including the French scientist Paul-Henry Nargeolet.

In Greece, nine Egyptian smugglers were placed in pre-trial detention last night suspected of illegal human smuggling after the sinking of a migrant boat last week. In one of the deadliest incidents of this kind in recent years in the Mediterranean, it has been estimated that at least 82 people died.

In France, those wanting to gain their driving license can now do so from the age of 17, as announced by the Prime Minister, Elisabeth Borne who confirmed the measure last night. The implementation of this new driving age will take place from January 2024.

There will be a change of leadership today at the CFDT when Marylise Léon will officially take over from Laurent Berger at the head of the main union in France within the private sector. At 46, Mme Léon, who is a qualified chemist, has been in the number two role at the confederation since 2018.

And finally, with today being June the 21st, France will celebrate the arrival of summer with its annual musical festivities. The Fête de la Musique will bring together thousands of amateur as well as professional musicians in events held all over France.