



## The News

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*by Emma Phillips*

Emmanuel Macron will be in Marseille for the next three days to concentrate on his "Marseille en Grand" project. Today's focus will be on security, with the President due to visit the penitentiary establishment of Baumettes. Emmanuel Macron has already announced that fines for the possession or consumption of cannabis "can be paid immediately", by bank card or in cash, to replace the telepayment system deemed ineffective by the president.

Legal clerks across the country are calling for a strike today to demand an increase in the number of staff. The number of clerk vacancies is reaching critical levels France. Several demonstrations in several cities across the country will be taking place.

Benjamin Mendy will be back in court today. The French footballer who was part of the world champion team back in 2018 will be facing his retrial over the next few weeks in England on two charges of rape and attempted rape. The jurors were not able to reach a decision in the first trial.

There is still no sign of Yevgeny Prigozhin after the attempted coup in Russia over the weekend. The leader of the Wagner paramilitary group ordered his troops to back down and then left for Belarus. He has not been heard from since Saturday evening. The attempted coup was described by Emmanuel Macron as showing "divisions in the Russian camp" or even "cracks" as described by US Foreign Minister Antony Blinken.

And finally to football and France are drawing ever closer to the quarter finals of the Euro qualifiers. France won their second match in a row last night, beating Norway 1-0.