



The News

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by Sarah Heath

There has been a mixed reaction after the meeting between party leaders and President Macron. Discussions lasted 12 hours but the lack of concrete decisions has left many disappointed. There will be no referendum proposal, for example. "We passed 12 hours on Planet Mars" was the conclusion of Manuel Bompard from the left-wing party, La France Insoumise. However, left-wing politicians did come away with one positive by obtaining the promise of the organization of a "social conference" on careers and employees who work below the minimum wage.

Representatives from the food industry are expected today in Bercy. They are due to meet with Bruno Le Maire, who has already started discussions with food distributors. The Minister of Economy wants to maintain pressure for a drop in food prices for consumers as the high cost of living continues to negatively affect family budgets.

Clément Beaune is showing support for the legalization of surrogacy in the future. The Minister of Transport gave his views in an interview published yesterday in the magazine, L'Obs. Surrogacy, however, does not appear in Emmanuel Macron's planned program.

In Gabon, the president, Ali Bongo, is still under house arrest. After the coup d'état led yesterday by the military, the head of the Republican Guard, General Brice Oligui Nguema, was placed at the head of the country. The French embassy in Gabon calls on its nationals to exercise the greatest caution, particularly in the capital Libreville.

Hurricane Idalia in the United States has been downgraded to a tropical storm. Florida was particularly impacted by the strong weather system with significant flooding. Despite the damage, the authorities seem to consider that the worst has been avoided.

The Venice Film Festival opened its doors yesterday for the 80th time albeit under a cloud. Several American stars declined the invitation due to the strike in Hollywood which has lasted for almost 4 months. This means that there will be very few stars on the red carpet. The films themselves, notably that of director David Fincher, will therefore be the centre of attention in the coming days.

And finally, we will find out today which French players have been selected for the first matches in the Euro qualifiers. Didier Deschamps will reveal his list today at 2 o'clock this afternoon as to who will play against Ireland next Thursday, and then against Germany on September 12th.