



The News

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by Sarah Heath

Elisabeth Borne has once again drawn upon Article 49.3, a section of the French Constitution which enables the government to push a bill through the National Assembly, without a vote. She wants to push through the entire draft of the social security budget for 2024 without a vote by MPs. La France Insoumise has declared that they will file a no-confidence motion.

In the upper house, senators voted last night for a ban on inclusive writing, which refers to strategies used by feminists, gender activists and others to make the French language more gender balanced. The bill was proposed by the right and aims to ban this practice from all official wording, such as legal text, employment contracts, and internal company regulations. The bill will now be read at the National Assembly.

In the Middle East, the Gaza Strip is still under fire from bombing raids. Last night, Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, warned that there will be no ceasefire in the Palestinian enclave, because this would according to him, amount to giving in to the barbarity of Hamas who are still holding more than 200 Israeli hostages. Hamas have published a new video in which three women are shown as hostages in a display of "cruel psychological propaganda", according to Israel.

It's Halloween tonight, and on the eve of November the 1st, many festivities will be organized all over the country. While a fun opportunity for children to go out in disguise and ask for sweets, it is also a moment for law enforcement to be particularly vigilant. Gerald Darmanin has warned préfets of the risk of antisocial behaviour and violence. Last year several incidents were recorded, most notably vehicles set on fire.

The Atlantic coast of France is preparing for intense and violent winds. Storm Ciaranne is expected on Wednesday and Thursday with gusts of up to 150 km/h and waves of 8 to 10 metres high. Authorities have therefore recommended staying away from the area during the middle of the week.

And finally, a new coronation for Lionel Messi, the Argentinian world champion who received his 8th Golden Ball last night in Paris. His now legendary status came by beating Erling Haaland and Kylian Mbappé. The women's Golden Ball was awarded to Spaniard Aitana Bonmati, who had been the favourite to win.