



The News

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by Sarah Heath

For the 16th time since her arrival at Matignon, Elisabeth Borne used Article 49.3 last night at the National Assembly. This time it was to have the second part of the state budget adopted, without a vote. As recently as last week, the Prime Minister had used this constitutional shortcut to push the social security budget through. Opposition parties will table new motions of censure within the allocated time frame.

In the Senate, the abolition of state medical aid for undocumented immigrants was adopted yesterday by senators, during the examination of the immigration bill. Concerning the controversial Article 3 of this law, whereby residence permits were to be allowed for undocumented workers in professions with a shortfall in skilled labour, Republican MPs and their centrist allies reached an agreement yesterday to delete this part of the bill.

A month after the start of the conflict between Israel and Hamas, a major march against anti-semitism will be organized this Sunday in Paris between the Senate and the National Assembly. The call was launched by the presidents of the two chambers of Parliament, namely Gérard Larcher and Yaël Braun-Pivet.

In the meantime, Israel continues its counter-offensive on the Gaza Strip. The Jewish State reaffirmed yesterday its desire to "destroy Hamas" and that no ceasefire will take place as long as hostages are being held by the Palestinian group. The Israeli government has confirmed that its troops are now in the heart of Gaza City.

In a major step forward for women's rights in the United States, Ohio voted yesterday to include the protection of the right to have an abortion in their constitution. One year before the American presidential elections, it is a victory for the Democrats in this eastern state of the country.

And finally a word about football. PSG lost last night against AC Milan, 2 goals to 1, during the 4th group match. The Parisians are no longer leaders of the group and is no longer guaranteed to qualify for the last 16 in the Champions League.