



## The News December 28<sup>th</sup>, 8am © by Emma Phillips

"A statesman whose destiny laid with France, the inexhaustible architect of the Europe we know". These were the words of Emmanuel Macron following the announcement of the death of Jacques Delors. The former Minister and President of the European Commission died yesterday at the age of 98. There is no doubt as to the mark Delors left on both French and European politics. He chaired the European Commission for ten years, during which time major decisions were made, including the Maastricht Treaty which paved the way for the creation of the euro.

A judicial investigation has been opened after the death of a 16-year-old boy in Limoges. He was stabbed in the middle of the street on Monday evening during a fight in the town centre. Five suspects have been arrested and will appear before the judge today.

The future of Habitat will be decided upon today. The justice authorities will confirm whether the home furnishings store will go into judicial liquidation. Habitat employs more than 300 people in France across its 26 stores.

And finally, an agreement has been reached for integrating Romania and Bulgaria into the Schengen area via sea and air. The two countries managed to find common ground with Austria, which had previously vetoed the two countries' ascendance. Austria now says it will accept the inclusion of Romania and Bulgaria as long as there are more secure external borders of the European Union. Opening Romania and Bulgaria's land borders to the EU will be discussed next year.