



The News

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by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

The president set the course for the rest of his five-year term last night during a press conference at the Elysée. A series of announcements on various themes starting with education: theater will be taught in middle schools, the generalization of the uniform in 2026 is being considered and the hourly volume of civic education courses will be doubled. He also wants to regain control of children's screens which too often confines them, according to him. A scientific commission will present its conclusions "at the end of March" with recommendations and even restrictions.

Another announcement made by Emmanuel Macron is the creation of a birth leave which will replace the parental leave. It is shorter (6 months) but better paid and will benefit both parents if they wish. The question of medical deserts was also addressed, the Head of State reaffirmed that he did not think that the "obligation" of installing doctors was a good solution. Finally, he also indicated that he wanted the foreign doctors to be regularized.

These announcements caused a lot of reactions from the opposition. "An umpteenth and endless chatter" according to Marine LePen. "Macron repeats broken promises and announces a new stage of social mistreatment", castigated the Insoumis Manuel Bompard. The President promised a meeting with the Nation. It was only a meeting with himself", declared the head of LR Eric Ciotti.

In the rest of the news, Olivier Dussopt soon know his fate. The former Minister of Labor will learn today the court's decision concerning him in the case of favoritism for the award of a public water contract when he was mayor of Annonay, in Ardèche. The national financial prosecutor's office requested a ten-month suspended prison sentence and a 15,000-euro fine.

And then from Brittany to the Grand Est via Ile de France, Hauts de France and Normandy, 36 departments are kept under alert for rain and flooding or snow and ice. Depression Irène arrives with significant snowfall and freezing rain. School transportation is suspended in several departments.