



The News

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by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

The ceremony has started at Place Vendôme. Emmanuel Macron is presiding this afternoon over the national tribute to Robert Badinter, the former Minister of Justice who died last Friday at the age of 95. The Head of State will deliver a speech in which he will speak about a possible entry into the Pantheon. A tribute which does not escape controversy, as two *Insoumis* elected officials are present contrary to the request of the family of Robert Badinter who had wanted no LFI or RN elected officials to attend the ceremony.

Will there be trains for the start of the zone A holidays? The SNCF will communicate its traffic forecasts this afternoon, as controllers are called to strike. The objective is to ensure at least one TGV out of two, says the company with priority for departures and returns from the ski resorts. Questioned on the subject on the sidelines of a trip to Val de Marne, Gabriel Attal deplores "a feeling of habit" and calls on the controllers "to be responsible so as not to penalize the French". "The strike is a right, but working is a duty", says the Prime Minister.

Drivers will now be able to present their driving license in digital format during a check. After a successful test in several departments, Gérald Darmanin confirmed this morning the generalization of the dematerialized driving license throughout the country. The Minister of the Interior specifies, however, that there will be no obligation. The paper and digital versions will coexist.

In the news abroad, Russia is intensifying its bombing and operations on Ukraine's eastern front. Three people were killed and twelve injured last night near Donetsk. As for Ukraine, it claims to have destroyed a Russian warship off the coast of Crimea - Information that Moscow has not confirmed.

And then in soccer, the PSG returns to the Champions League this evening. The Parisians welcome the Spaniards from Real Sociedad to the *Parc des Princes* for the round of 16 of the competition. Kick-off at 9 p.m.