



## The News

**May 17th, 9am** ©

*by Emma Phillips*

This morning Gabriel Attal will chair an interministerial crisis unit for New Caledonia. The overseas territory in the Pacific ocean remains in a state of emergency and the army has been deployed after a week of rioting. Five people have been killed, including two gendarmes. Three police officers also sustained injuries after they were shot, but their condition is not life-threatening. Today, the Prime Minister will discuss the situation with members of government.

Industrial action will continue in prisons across the country today. The inter-union of prison guards has organised the blockades after two prison officers were killed earlier this week. The two of them had been escorting a prisoner, Mohammed Amra, to court in Eure on Tuesday when the van was ambushed and they were shot dead. Amra and the gunmen remain at large.

The deaths of two Thai nationals during the Hamas hostage taking attack on October 7 have been confirmed by the Israeli army. The news came yesterday that their bodies had then been taken to the Gaza strip by Hamas. The two had been working on the land in a kibbutz at the time of their deaths. No one had heard from them in seven months. Of the 252 people kidnapped during the attack, 128 remain prisoners in Gaza, 38 of whom the Israeli army presume to be dead.

Today is the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia and demonstrations are planned in Paris, Bordeaux, Rennes and Lille.

And finally, a busy weekend on the roads lies ahead as the country will enjoy a three-day Pentecost weekend. Traffic website the Bison Futé predicts red and orange levels of traffic today and tomorrow, as well as on Monday.