



## The News

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*by Emma Phillips*

Emmanuel Macron says that he wants to profoundly change his way of governing. The president wrote an open letter that was published in regional press across the country yesterday. In it, Macron explained his choice to dissolve the national assembly and appealed for votes for the presidential party in next Sunday's elections. He also pledged not to leave office before the end of his mandate and confirmed that he would remain at the Elysée even if government was shared.

Demonstrations against the far right took place across the country yesterday, in Paris, Marseille, Bordeaux, Nice, Lyon, Toulouse and Rennes. The union CGT claims that crowds across France totalled 130,000 people, with 75,000 of those in Paris.

Fresh violence has broken out in New Caledonia, with a police station and a town hall burned down last night. Kanak separatists clashed with police after seven independence activists linked to last month's deadly riots were transferred to mainland France for pre-trial detention.

The former priest Bernard Preynat who was convicted in 2020 for sexual assault on a minor, has died. The 79 year-old was released from prison a few weeks ago after serving most of a 5 year sentence.

Benjamin Netanyahu has said that after a month of intense bombing, the "intense" fighting in Rafah is "about to end". The Israeli Prime Minister said troops would be sent north to the border with Lebanon for "defensive purposes" and stressed that the war itself was not over.

And finally, for students in the general and technological streams of the Bac, the final "Grand Oral" exams get underway today and are due to last until July 3<sup>rd</sup>. However, the smooth running of the exams which are worth 10% of the students' overall grade may be under threat from a teachers' strike, as teachers demand fewer specialty streams in the Bac programme.