



## The News

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*by Emma Phillips*

Roland Dumas, an emblematic figure of France's leftwing politics, has died at the age of 101. Dumas held various positions, including that of government spokesperson and Minister for Foreign Affairs in the late 80s under François Mitterrand and chaired the Constitutional Council between 1995 and 2000. He will also be remembered for the Elf oil sleaze scandal in which his mistress was paid vast sums mainly just to entertain him.

With just four days to go until the second round of the legislative elections, Emmanuel Macron chaired a council of ministers this morning. The president made it clear that he does not want to govern alongside the leftwing party La France Insoumise, stating that candidates withdrawing in certain constituencies in order to block the far right did not mean that the presidential majority was allying with LFI.

In the Rassemblement National, Jordan Bardella has been forced to recognise that certain candidates in the far-right party that he heads are problematic, as they face accusations of racism and anti-Semitism. In Calvados, the RN candidate Ludivine Daoudi has been forced to withdraw after a photo of her wearing a Nazi officer's cap resurfaced on social media.

The Paris prosecutor's office has recommended that the director Benoît Jacquot face charges for rape after he was questioned by the Squad for Protecting Minors following reports from actresses Isild Le Besco and Julia Roy.

And finally, now they may get in your way when you try to take a sip of your drink or pour one out, but bottle caps attached to the bottle are now to become a permanent feature under EU law. The aim is to reduce plastic pollution, so like it or not, we'll just have to get used to it.