



## The News

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*by Emma Phillips*

The suspect of the Grande-Motte synagogue arson attack has only answered a few questions so far as the state of his health means he is not fit for full police questioning. The 33-year-old was injured during his arrest on Saturday night in Nîmes. He had attempted to set fire to the synagogue and had positioned himself in front of the main doors with his hatchet. Gendarmes arrived at the scene in less than two minutes. On yesterday's news on channel France 2, outgoing minister of the interior, Gérald Darmanin called the incident a "vile anti-Semitic act".

Emmanuel Macron is due to speak with Jordan Bardella and Marine Le Pen from the Rassemblement National party this morning, as well as with the chair of the Assemblée Nationale, Yaël Braun-Pivet as the process continues to select a new prime minister. The president will also speak with Eric Ciotti, the head of the rightwing alliance in the lower house and Gérard Larcher, the chair of the Senate.

In the meantime, the candidate for prime minister for the left-wing alliance, Nouveau Front Populaire, Lucie Castets says that she is "awaiting a response" from Macron concerning the possibility of an NFP government that excludes the most left-wing party in the alliance, France Insoumise.

The general secretary of the union, CGT, Sophie Binet has said in an interview with magazine La Vie Ouvrière that industrial action lies ahead in late September and early October due to issues such as the repeal of pension reform, wages and public services.

And finally, the Paralympic flame continues its journey across France today. The flame will pass through several cities over the course of the day including Arras, Amiens, Blois, Lyon, Vichy and Limoges ahead of its return to Paris' Place de la Concorde on Wednesday for the opening ceremony of the Paralympic Games. Yesterday it was announced that Chinese actor Jackie Chan will carry the flame on Wednesday in Paris.