



## The News

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*by Emma Phillips*

The very first conseil des ministres of Michel Barnier's government took place at the Elysée this afternoon. And it was a very brief one, with ministers gathering for less than half an hour after this morning's transfer of power. The country's new minister of the interior Bruno Retailleau, has set a firm tone from the outset, stating that his priority is to restore order. Meanwhile, new minister of education Anne Genetet has said that there will be no "changing course" for national education. Astrid Panosyan, who is now minister for labour, says that she will focus on making pension reform more sustainable in order to quell anxieties.

And yet, nothing has convinced the union CGT that there is no cause for concern. The union is forging ahead with plans for a day of strikes and demonstrations on October 1<sup>st</sup>. General secretary Sophie Binet says now is the second leg for protests against the reform, as the union calls for the repeal of the bill and other funding proposals to be put on the table.

A minute of silence was held early this afternoon at the university Paris Dauphine, in memory of Philippine. The 19-year-old student was found dead on Saturday in the Bois de Boulogne. Her body showed traces of abuse and injuries. An investigation has been opened for intentional homicide.

And finally, a month and a half after their thrilling performance at the Conciergerie during the opening ceremony of this summer's Olympic Games, metal band Gojira have confirmed they will be touring France next year. Tour dates include the city of Carcassone on July 29<sup>th</sup> and the Accor Arena in Paris Bercy on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. It is less clear whether any of the performances will feature a headless Marie Antoinette.