## The News
### October 23rd, 2pm ©
*by Emma Phillips*

So far, no decision has been made on whether to use article 49-3 of the constitution to force the budget through the Assemblée Nationale. This confirmation comes from government spokesperson, Maud Bregeon after the conseil des ministres met today. prime minister, Michel Barnier is keen to avoid forcing through the budget without a vote by resorting to article 49-3 and would prefer discussions on the matter to continue.

"I'm a woman who has been totally destroyed". These were the powerful words of Gisèle Pélicot today at the criminal court of Vaucluse. Pélicot, who is in her seventies, made a statement as part of the trial of her husband and 51 other men. Her husband is accused of sedating her and recruiting men online to rape his wife while she was unconscious. Today, Gisèle Pélicot said that she felt betrayed by her husband after fifty years together and insisted that while rape victims do feel shame, the men responsible for rapes should be the ones to feel ashamed.

The chairpersons of the Senate and of the Assemblée Nationale, Gérard Larcher and Yaël Braun-Pivet will visit New Caledonia next month to consult with people there and continue dialogue. Violence over the past several months that was sparked by reform to voting rights on the islands has caused 13 deaths and billions of euros in damage.

The car belonging to the parents of baby Santiago has been found in Charleroi in Belgium. The couple is suspected of abducting their baby from the maternity ward of a hospital in Aulnay-sous-Bois. Baby Santiago was receiving constant medical attention after being born prematurely less than 20 days ago. His parents, aged 23 and 25, are wanted by police. The justice authorities are stressing that baby Santiago needs constant medical care and that without it, his life is in danger.

And finally, to football, and day 3 of the Champions League continues this evening. At 6.45pm, Brest will play at home to Bayer Leverkusen. Then, at 9pm, Lille will play away to Atlético Madrid.