



The News

November 25th, 12pm ©

by Emma Phillips

The maximum sentence has been requested for Dominique Pélicot this morning. The public prosecutor has recommended 20 years in prison for the “despicable actions” of the main defendant in the Mazan Rape Trial. After 11 weeks before the criminal court in Avignon, the public prosecutor must determine the sentence for the 50 other defendants, all of whom came to the house to rape Gisèle Pélicot, who had been drugged by her husband. As the indictment hearing opened, one of the magistrates in the case commented that “this trial has shaken up our society”.

Today is the 25th of November and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Michel Barnier has chosen today to present his plan to on how to address sexual violence. Among the measures that the prime minister will unveil this afternoon are victims being able to file complaints from hospitals, better training for law enforcement officers, and an increase in universal emergency aid for victims.

There are currently around 3,000 professionals from the cultural sector protesting upcoming budget cuts at the Conseil Régional in Nantes. The head of the council, Christelle Morançais has announced a 73% cut in subsidies for cultural projects as of next year.

Another week of farmer industrial action lies ahead, in particular in the regions of Lot and Manche regions. Farmers are protesting the potential free-trade agreement between the European Union and Mercosur. The union FNSEA plans to get protests going again tomorrow.

And finally, yesterday was a record-breakingly mild night for the time of the year, especially in the south-west. Temperatures reached 26 degrees in Pau. Otherwise, it is very windy in the middle of the country, with windspeeds reaching 110km/h this morning in Lyon and Saint-Etienne. Météo France has put nine départements on orange weather alert until 6pm.