



The News

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by Emma Phillips

France's new prime minister, François Bayrou says that he wants to unite the French people rather than divide them. The transfer of power from Michel Barnier to the centrist is taking place this afternoon at the prime minister's offices at Matignon. François Bayrou will meet with outgoing minister of the interior, Bruno Retailleau this evening. Representatives from the Républicains party say that the new prime minister's plans will determine whether the party will be willing to participate in the new government.

The choice of new prime minister has divided opinion on the left. The Parti Socialist say that they will not file a motion of no confidence as long as the new prime minister commits to not using article 49-3 to force through next year's budget without a final vote. Meanwhile, the national coordinator for La France Insoumise, Manuel Bompard, has said that François Bayrou's appointment is yet another insult to democracy and the party is threatening to proceed with tabling a vote of no confidence.

In Metz, the husband of Stéphanie Di Vincenzo has been handed the maximum sentence for her murder. Liridon Berisa will serve a minimum 22 years of a life sentence for killing his wife in 2021. He stabbed her eleven times in the street in front of their four-year-old daughter after Stéphanie Di Vincenzo had escaped the apartment they shared through a window.

The closing arguments from the defence in the Mazan rape trial got underway today at the criminal court of Vaucluse. Fifty men have been on trial for the rape and sexual assault of Gisèle Pelicot that had been arranged by her husband. The prosecution has requested between 10 and 20 years for each defendant. The verdict is expected at the end of next week.

And finally to football, day 15 of the Ligue 1 gets underway tonight. Toulouse play at home to Saint-Etienne at 8.45pm this evening and this weekend will see matches between Marseille and Lille, Reims and Monaco and Paris Saint Germain and Lyon.