



## The News December 16th, 4pm © by Emma Phillips

20 people have been confirmed dead in Mayotte in the devastation of cyclone Chido. Outgoing minister of the interior Bruno Retailleau arrived to the island today and stated that it would take several days to calculate the true extent of the dead and injured. Today, 85% of Mayotte is without electricity and an air and sea bridge has been set up with I'lle de la Réunion to bring in extra support and materials. All commercial flights have been suspended until Thursday at the earliest.

In the Assemblée Nationale, a minute's silence for the victims of the cyclone in Mayotte will be observed this afternoon. Meanwhile, the lower house is tackling the special bill on the 2025 budget. The president of the Assemblée Nationale, Yaël Braun-Pivet has deemed certain amendments concerning the income tax scale inadmissible. The bill is to ensure that state services can continue running in the absence of a finalised budget for next year.

Dominique Pélicot praised his ex-wife Gisèle for her bravery and asked his family for forgiveness this morning at Vaucluse criminal court. All defendants in the Mazan rape trial had the opportunity to address the court one final time today before the verdict is expected on Thursday, Friday at the latest.

The first train on the new trainline between Paris and Berlin left the Gare de l'Est this morning. The eight-hour journey time includes stops in Strasbourg and Frankfurt.

And finally, Netflix has just unveiled the first trailer for Alain Chabat's animated series "Asterix", an adaptation of *Combat des chefs*, the seventh Asterix and Obelix adventure published in 1966. The series release date has not been confirmed but "Asterix" is expected in the first half of 2025.