



The News

December 19th, 5pm ©

by Emma Phillips

A moment of national mourning will be held at 11 o'clock on Monday, in memory of the victims of cyclone Chido. Emmanuel Macron arrived to Mayotte this morning and pledged that the state would provide all the resources necessary for rebuilding the islands. The president stated that the rebuilding would be completed according to new criteria and that the fight would be stepped up against illegal immigration. Anyone in Mayotte who does not have insurance will also be eligible to apply for a special compensation fund.

François Bayrou has promised to announce the line-up of the new government before Christmas. A round table of elected officials was held at the prime minister's offices at Matignon earlier this afternoon. Around thirty officials were in attendance, excluding the Rassemblement National and France Insoumise. François Bayrou has offered party leaders to join the new government. He also stated that discussions on pensions could be held from September onwards but that there were no plans to suspend the current reform.

The family of Gisèle Pelicot has expressed disappointment at the "low" sentences that have been handed down in the Mazan rape trial. Dominique Pélicot was sentenced to 20 years on charges of aggravated rape for making arrangements online for some fifty men to rape his wife while she was unconscious. The other defendants received sentences ranging from three to 20 years. Feminist organisations have been protesting outside the courthouse in Avignon today.

In the trial in the case of the illegal confinement and attempted extortion of Paul Pogba, today, the footballer's brother Mathias was handed a three-year sentence with two of those years suspended. The other defendants involved also received sentences of between three and eight years. In 2022, the individuals conspired to kidnap Paul Pogba and demanded 13 million euros from the player.

And finally, a look to the Vendée Globe and skipper Charlie Dalin is still leading the round the world race, which is now approaching Point Nemo, the furthest point from land on the planet. Dalin is ahead of Yoann Richomme and Sébastien Simon.