The News
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by Emma Phillips

Emmanuel Macron has called for an "immediate return to the ceasefire" in Gaza and resumption of humanitarian aid to the area where nearly 2.4 million people have been displaced due to the fighting. The president was speaking in Cairo earlier today from a summit also attended by the King of Jordan. Macron said that "Egypt and France share a convergence of views" and that both condemned the resumption of Israeli strikes in Gaza, branding the current situation a "dramatic setback". He also hailed Egypt's tireless efforts as co-mediator for the ceasefire and the release of hostages still held by Hamas.

Emmanuel Macron also took the opportunity to address the situation in Ukraine, calling on Russia to stop using "stalling tactics" and agree to the unconditional ceasefire proposed by US President Donald Trump. A delegation from Ukraine delegation is expected in Washington this week to discuss the potential partnership on strategic minerals.

The CAC40 is down 3% today as there is widespread panic on global financial markets further to the sweeping tariffs introduced by the US last week. Today, the European Commission put forward a "zero-for-zero" tariff deal to avoid a trade war with the US. EU ministers have said that they will prioritise negotiations, while striking back with targeted countermeasures next week.

The Assemblée Nationale is looking at the reform of municipal elections in Paris, Lyon and Marseille today with a bill that could see the introduction of two elections, one for each arrondissement of the city in question and the other to elect representatives straight to the municipal council. The measures could come into force as early as next year's municipal elections.

And finally, today sees the launch of a vaccination campaign against the chikungunya virus on the Ile de la Réunion, an operation aimed primarily at the most vulnerable people. 40,000 doses have been dispatched to the island, where the current outbreak is expected to peak in mid-April.