



The News

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by Emma Phillips

Nicolas Sarkozy has just arrived to court in Paris for the final afternoon of hearings in the case of the alleged Libyan funding of his 2007 presidential campaign. The four lawyers for the former president will be giving their closing arguments and the defendants in the case will be given a last chance to speak. The court will then adjourn in order to make its decision.

The CAC40 opened up +1.4% today as European markets are rallying following a punishing start to the week due to the introduction of extensive US trade tariffs. After a dramatic market sell-off on Monday further to the sweeping tariffs, EU chief Ursula von der Leyen has called on China to “avoid further escalation” and has stressed the need for a negotiated resolution.

The future of low emission zones also known as ZFE hangs in the balance this afternoon in the Assemblée Nationale as the bill for the simplification of a range of policies is discussed. The bill has received ample right-wing support, including from the Rassemblement National. The Minister for Ecological Transition is currently proposing to maintain these zones in major cities where thresholds for air quality are regularly exceeded, which would reduce them to Paris and Lyon.

Meanwhile, the European observatory Copernicus has reported that March 2025 was the hottest on record, warning that Europe is becoming warmer at a faster rate than the rest of the planet. Last month saw extremely heavy rainfall in Spain and Portugal while the Netherlands and Germany had unprecedented amounts of dry weather.

And finally, today sees the end of a 100-year-old football club after the commercial court of Niort ordered the liquidation of Chamois Niortais FC. The club was in the Ligue 2 as recent as two years ago. The liquidation will get underway in the next ten days under the Executive Committee of the French Football Federation.