



The News

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by Emma Phillips

The bill on the right to assisted dying was approved yesterday on the first reading at the Assemblée Nationale. In what certain members of parliament are calling a “historic vote”, the bill passed this initial stage by 305 votes to 199. During the same session, the bill on the future of palliative care was unanimously approved by the lower house. Emmanuel Macron then took to social media to hail what he called an “important first step”. There is a lot of truth in that choice of words from the President as there is still a long legislative process that lies ahead for both of these bills. They are expected to reach the Senate by the autumn.

The verdict is expected today for paedophile surgeon Joël Le Scouarnec. Le Scouarnec, who is in his 70s, faces up to 20 years in prison for the rape and assault of 299 people between 1989 and 2014. The trial has taken three months at Morbihan criminal court.

The man accused of causing the fatal fire in Courchevel ski resort in 2019 has been sentenced to life in prison. Hicham Abderraouf was sentenced yesterday by the Savoie Assize Court. He had been convicted of setting alight a building that housed resort workers. Two people were killed in the blaze and at least 25 injured.

With two years to go until the next Presidential election, former Prime Minister Edouard Philippe has criticised Emmanuel Macron for not sticking to a “clear programme” since 2022. In what could be a bid to distance himself from the current President, in an interview with *Le Point*, Philippe stresses the importance of stating “prior to the election everything you intend to do if you want to be able to do everything after the election”. Edouard Philippe has already officially announced that he will be running as a candidate for the Elysée in 2027.

And finally to Roland-Garros now where last night saw Gaël Monfils play... a typical match from Gaël Monfils. The French player was clearly not at the top of his game physically speaking from the very start of the match against Bolivian Hugo Dellien and yet somehow, he managed to pull it out of the bag to make it an epic five set victory. Monfils will meet Jack Draper in the second round.