



The News

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by Emma Phillips

One week since the start of the conflict between Israel and Iran, Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot is calling for 'restraint, de-escalation and an end to strikes on both sides'. The Minister has urged for negotiations to resume just as a procedure has been rolled out for French nationals wishing to leave Iran and Israel. Any French national currently in Iran can leave the country without a visa via Armenia and Turkey, while French nationals wishing to leave Israel have been told to travel by road to Jordan and Egypt.

Bruno Retailleau has announced that he is going to double the number of army personnel stationed outside institutions linked to the Jewish faith as part of operation Sentinelle. Earlier today, the Minister of the Interior met with representatives of the Jewish community, who stated their concerns about the risk of attack.

A study from the Observatory of Local Democracy has concluded that doubts should be cast over whether the position of local mayor is still an attractive one. The study found that in an unprecedented wave of resignations, nearly 2,200 mayors had stepped down since 2020, with the peak at midway through the term of office. One of the main reasons cited is tensions within municipal councils.

As exam season rolls on, students in the general and technological baccalaureate streams have had their final written exams today. Now, it's time for a little break ahead of the sitting the Grand Oral exam next week.

And finally, this afternoon one of France's biggest festivals opened its doors, or should I say gates – Hell Fest is taking place all weekend in the Loire Atlantique with more than 180 acts rocking out until late on Sunday. In its 18th year, this time Hell Fest crowds can look forward to Muse, Scorpions and Linkin Park.