



## **The News**

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*by Emma Phillips*

The police officer responsible for the death of Nahel Merzouk will have his appeal heard tomorrow. 16-year-old Nahel, who was French-Algerian, was killed in Nanterre in June 2023. The car he was driving was flagged over for a traffic stop and the police officer in question shot him at point-blank range. The defence team are requesting a postponement of the hearing before the Assize Court.

The 2026 draft budget will be presented tomorrow to the High Council of Public Finance. The independent body will then give its opinion. The current draft is still subject to change before it is presented to the Council of Ministers. Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu is expected to deliver his general policy statement early next week.

Sébastien Lecornu has unveiled an initial proposal for the next social security budget, the promise to improve pensions for women. The idea has been included in a letter from the Prime Minister to trade unions. Meanwhile, tomorrow will see another day of widespread industrial action across France. Sébastien Lecornu has also said that he wants to continue discussions on arduous work and health conditions brought on by certain professions.

And finally, American actor Jim Carrey can step right up to the next César Awards. Tribute will be paid to Carrey's long-spanning career, which has seen him be the star of greats such as 'The Mask', 'Dumb and Dumber' and 'The Truman Show' with the César d'honneur at the next ceremony on 27 February. Jim Carrey has also already won two Golden Globes for Best Actor.