



The News

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by Emma Phillips

Sébastien Lecornu has officially served the shortest term at Matignon in the history of the Fifth Republic. Just 27 days after he was appointed Prime Minister, today Sébastien Lecornu handed in his resignation from his position. He took the opportunity to urge his fellow politicians to be more selfless and “show humility” by putting aside their egos.

Sébastien Lecornu stepped down in the face of criticism from the opposition and the rightwing. This included from outgoing Minister of the Interior, Bruno Retailleau who withdrew his party, Les Républicains', support for the government. Today, Sébastien Lecornu pointed the finger at Retailleau, calling him “greedy” for the number of ministers he wanted to see appointed from the party Les Républicains. Bruno Retailleau took to the channel TF1 to state that he does not feel at all responsible for the fall of the government.

So, in these circumstances, what will Emmanuel Macron do next? Although a number of voices are urging the President to offer his reaction quickly, so far, no official statement has been scheduled.

Meanwhile, the Socialists, Ecologists and Communist parties are clamouring for the appointment of a left-wing Prime Minister. Mathilde Panot from leftwing party La France Insoumise has made clear that she thinks “Macron must go”, while on the other end of the political spectrum, chief of the extreme rightwing Rassemblement National party, Jordan Bardella, is calling for the Assemblée Nationale to be dissolved yet again.

In other news, the only man to have appealed after the Mazan rape trial, a 44-year-old man, appeared before the Gard Assize Court of Appeal today for aggravated rape. He has again stated that he ‘never’ intended to rape Gisèle Pelicot.

And finally, two years to the day after the attacks of 7 October, a ceremony will be held tomorrow at the Quai d'Orsay in tribute to the fifty-one French citizens killed during attacks or during their captivity in Gaza. Talks to try to end the conflict began today in Egypt in the presence of delegations from Hamas, Israel and the United States.