



The News

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by Emma Phillips

The nation has been paying its final tribute to Robert Badinter today as preparations are underway for the former Minister of Justice to be laid to rest tonight, a year and a half after his death, in the Pantheon. Robert Badinter was, in the words of a statement from the Elysée Palace, someone who 'embodied the rule of law' and was a key figure in enabling the abolition of the death penalty. Today, on his induction into the Pantheon, marks exactly 44 years since the death penalty was abolished in France.

Emmanuel Macron has given himself until tomorrow evening to find a successor to Sébastien Lecornu. In the past few hours, several names have been circulating as to who could be the country's next Prime Minister, including Jean-Louis Borloo, who had an unbroken streak as serving as a minister under Jacques Chirac and Nicolas Sarkozy between 2002 and 2010. However, Mr Borloo says he has not been approached to take the job.

Today, Emmanuel Macron also welcomed what he called a 'historic agreement' between Israel and Hamas for peace in Gaza, and extended his congratulations to Donald Trump for brokering the deal. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has once again called for the US President to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

The only defendant from the Mazan rape trial to have appealed his sentence was handed 10 years in prison today. The public prosecutor had requested a 12-year prison sentence for the rape of Gisèle Pelicot. The defendant now has 10 days to appeal to France's supreme court, the Court of Cassation.

And finally, to cycling, and Arnaud Démare has decided that Sunday's race between Paris and Tours will be his last as he then plans to retire. The 34-year-old sprinter can count 97 victories to his name, including two stages of the Tour de France and being a one-time winner of the Milan-Sanremo race.