



The News

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by Emma Phillips

France and Ukraine were standing in solidarity today as Emmanuel Macron welcomed Volodymyr Zelensky to the Élysée Palace for a midday meeting. The two leaders announced that they were moving forward on several points, including an arms agreement that provides for the acquisition of 100 Rafale fighter aircraft over the next 10 years. Emmanuel Macron hailed 'an important step' in strengthening Ukraine's deterrent capability while Volodymyr Zelensky spoke of a 'historic order'. The Ukrainian President will now continue on his tour of European allies and will be in Spain tomorrow.

The Prime Minister has expressed his concerns about the vote on the finance bill, which must take place before Sunday. Since the Choose France Summit, Sébastien Lecornu has insisted that the lack of a budget is 'the danger now facing France'. Discussions on the budget resumed today in the Assemblée Nationale.

A massive theft of personal data has occurred from the Pajemploi service. The organisation responsible for collecting employer social security contributions, Urssaf has warned of a cyber-malicious act that 'may have affected up to 1.2 million employees of private employers'. The organisation has stressed that no bank account numbers or login passwords have been stolen.

The PSG-MBappé trial, in which both sides are claiming astronomical sums has been brought to an industrial tribunal hearing. The French international player is claiming €240 million off his former club... which is also claiming the same amount from him. The stand-off stems from the steps taken at the end of Kilian MBappé's contract in Paris ahead of his departure to Real Madrid.

And finally, an update on the Louvre – a month after the robbery, a gallery of nine rooms has had to be closed to the public for safety reasons. The most famous museum in the world has pointed to the "fragile state of the building, with particular weaknesses in the floors on the second floor".