



The News

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by Emma Phillips

Sébastien Lecornu has insisted that the 2026 budget can garner a majority in the Assemblée Nationale, although he is braced for the text to fail at the final stumbling block before the year is out. Today, speaking from his offices in Matignon, the Prime Minister lamented the “cynicism” displayed by some parties, claiming the budget failure could serve as key strategy point in the next presidential election. Sébastien Lecornu also announced that he would be meeting party leaders in order to make strides across five key issues: energy, state reform, deficit, agriculture, and domestic and external security.

Meanwhile, senators are currently examining the social security budget and have opposed putting a limit on how long sick leave can last. They have also said no to prolonging sick leave via online consultation. The Senate is due to examine the suspension of pension reform tomorrow afternoon.

There is potentially hope at last for a peace agreement on Ukraine, as yesterday saw leaders from Europe, the United States and Ukraine gather for negotiations in Switzerland. This afternoon, Russia said that it was not satisfied with Europe’s counter-proposal to the deal. The Coalition of the Willing, led by France and the United Kingdom, is due to meet tomorrow via videoconference.

The Minister of Agriculture, Annie Genevard met with wine growers earlier today after protests from the industry ten days ago. Wine growers are demanding more state aid due to a complex time for the industry and plans to uproot more vineyards.

And finally, reggae legend Jimmy Cliff has died at the age of 81. Hits such as You Can Get It If You Really Want, I Can See Clearly Now and Wonderful World, Beautiful People made Cliff a worldwide sensation. Jamaican Prime Minister, Andrew Holness praised “a true cultural giant whose music carried the heart of our nation to the world”.