



The News

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by Emma Phillips

The Senate has voted on the Social Security Financing Bill for 2026. Members of the lower house made extensive revisions today to the text that was put forward by the Assemblée Nationale. The lower house sought to increase the deficit to more than €24 billion, but now the upper house has reduced it on paper to €17.6 billion. Notably, the suspension of the pension reform has been scrapped. The bill will now go before a joint committee before most likely returning to the Assemblée Nationale for a second reading.

There will be no increase in property tax in 2026, or at least not immediately. As the measure concerning the potential tax hike sparked outcry, today Sébastien Lecornu has confirmed that it has been shelved. The Prime Minister wants to postpone discussions on the matter until the spring, claiming that this would give time for finalising a new method' of calculation. The property tax increase had been set to affect nearly 7.5 million households.

The controversial bill on the re-introduction of some banned pesticides, dubbed the "Duplomb law" will be the subject of debate once again in the Assemblée Nationale on 7th of January. The bill was passed five months ago despite a petition for its repeal that garnered more than 2 million signatures. In January, members of the lower house will debate the bill but there will be no further vote.

The Court of Cassation has confirmed the conviction of Nicolas Sarkozy that it handed down yesterday. The former president has been convicted for the illegal financing of his 2012 campaign. The case was dubbed the "Bygmalion" affair after the name of the PR company involved in the fraudulent invoicing. Nicolas Sarkozy has said he has not ruled out filing an appeal with the European Court of Human Rights.

And finally, to football and match day 5 of the Champions League continues this evening. Paris Saint Germain play at home at the Parc des Princes to Tottenham, while other matches include AS Monaco playing away to Cyprus, Arsenal vs Bayern Munich and Atlético Madrid vs Inter Milan.