



The News

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by *Emma Phillips*

Seventeen départements are on alert for flooding as France's west coast is bracing itself for the arrival of Storm Pedro. Heavy wind and rain is expected, with Gironde, Lot-et-Garonne, Charente-Maritime and Maine-et-Loire on red weather alert. The flood peaks are not expected until tomorrow.

Following in the footsteps of the Assemblée Nationale yesterday, today the Senate held a minute's silence for Quentin Deranque. The young nationalist activist died on Saturday after he was violently beaten by a group of young men on the sidelines of a talk held by the MEP Rima Hassan, who represents the leftwing party La France Insoumise. Eleven people have now been arrested in connection with Quentin's death, including a parliamentary assistant to a representative in the Assemblée Nationale for LFI, Raphaël Arnault. This evening it has also been confirmed that a second parliamentary assistant to the member of the lower house is another suspect.

A note from the Ministry of the Economy reveals that 13,335 millionaires in France do not pay income tax. The figure has reignited debate on the non-taxation of the incomes of the country's wealthiest people. The note in question was addressed to the chairmen of the Senate Finance Committee.

Leïla Shaid, who was widely considered the face of Palestine in Europe, died today at the age of 76. She was Palestine's representative to France between 1993 and 2005.

And finally, to Milan Cortina and the Winter Olympic Games where today brought another gold medal for Team France. Julia Simon, Lou Jeanmonnot, Camille Béné and Océane Michelon won the women's biathlon relay this afternoon. This latest gold is medal number 17 for Les Bleus at these Games. Ten of the medals have been from biathlon events.