**Dépêches en anglais**

**China's parliament abolishes presidential term limits**

China's parliament voted Sunday to abolish presidential term limits, clearing the path for President **Xi** **Jinping** to rule for life.

The almost 3,000 delegates to the country's rubber-stamp legislature passed the measure as part of a package of changes to the country's constitution, with 2,958 voting for, two against and three abstaining.

**Trump fires top diplomat Tillerson, names CIA chief as successor**

Donald **Trump** on Tuesday sacked his top diplomat Rex **Tillerson** and named current CIA chief Mike Pompeo to succeed him, ending a rocky tenure by the Texas oilman who had frequently been at odds with the mercurial US president.

A senior White House official said **Trump** wanted to reshuffle his team with a view to launching talks with North Korea, following last week's spectacular announcement that he plans to meet Kim Jong Un by the end of May.

While **Trump** thanked **Tillerson** "for his service," he was sparing in his praise of the 65-year-old former Exxon chief, long rumored to be on the way out.

Before leaving on a trip to California, **Trump** spoke openly of their differences -- singling out the Iran nuclear deal -- as he explained the rationale for the latest departure from his chaotic White House.

"We got along actually quite well but we disagreed on things," **Trump** told reporters. "When you look at the Iran deal, I thought it was terrible, he thought it was okay."

The remark suggests **Tillerson**'s sacking spells trouble for the agreement, under which Iran surrendered much of its nuclear infrastructure and opened the rest to international inspection in exchange for sanctions relief.

**Espionage**

British Prime Minister Theresa May said Monday it was highly likely that Russia was responsible for a "reckless and despicable" attack on a former double agent in Britain, an accusation rejected by Moscow as a "provocation".

In a dramatic escalation of diplomatic tensions over the attack on Sergei **Skripal** and his daughter on March 4, May said the nerve agent that poisoned them was a military-grade type developed by Russia.

She told parliament that Moscow had previously used this group of nerve agents known as Novichok, had a history of state-sponsored assassinations and viewed defectors such as **Skripal** as legitimate targets.

"The government has concluded that it is highly likely that Russia was responsible for the act against Sergei and Yulia **Skripal**," she told the House of Commons.Moscow swiftly rejected May's comments to lawmakers, saying it was "a circus show" and an attempt to undermine trust ahead of its hosting of this summer's World Cup.

May added if there was "no credible response" Britain will conclude it was "an unlawful use of force by the Russian State against the UK", and pledged to outline a "full range of measures" in response.

**Macron pledges 700 million euros for new solar projects**

French President Emmanuel **Macron** on Sunday pledged hundreds of millions of dollars for solar projects in developing countries, as world leaders met in **India** to promote greater investment in renewable energy.

**Macron**, who in December warned that the global shift to a green energy future was too slow, said **France** would extend an extra 700 million euros ($861.5 million) through loans and donations by 2022 for solar projects in emerging economies.

**France** had already committed $300 million euros to the initiative when it co-founded with **India** a global alliance in 2015 to unlock new cash for solar projects in sunny yet poor nations.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi -- who has committed to reducing **India**'s sizeable carbon footprint through a massive scale-up in renewable energy -- said it was vital that nations were not priced out.

**India**, the world's third-largest polluter, is undergoing spectacular growth in its solar sector and is on track to become one of the world's largest clean energy markets.

It pledged at the Paris climate summit in 2015 to source at least 40 percent of its energy from renewables by 2030, mainly via solar.

**MAYOTTE**

The French government attempted Monday to end weeks of unrest on the French Indian Ocean island of **Mayotte**, with a visiting minister promising action against insecurity and an influx of migrants from neighbouring African islands that has severely strained public services.

**Mayotte**, an island of 250,000 people that is geographically part of the Comoros archipelago off southeast Africa, has been in turmoil since mid-February.

Violent clashes between rival gangs at a school acted as a touchstone for anger over spiralling crime which many residents blame on migrants from non-French Comoran islands.

**Marine LE PEN**

**Marine** Le **Pen**'s grand unveiling of a new name for France's far-right National Front party didn't go as smoothly as she'd hoped.

Unveiling plans Sunday to rename the FN the "Rassemblement National" (National Union), the failed presidential candidate said the toxic brand was a key obstacle barring her from power.

Many voters who back her nationalist policies might have voted FN if not for the racist connotations clinging to the name of the party her father Jean-Marie Le **Pen** founded in 1972, she argued.

Despite claiming a record 34 percent of last year's vote, **Marine** Le **Pen** has emerged weakened from the race against Emmanuel Macron and is badly in need of a comeback.

But enthusiasm for her renaming idea has been muted amongst party faithful -- who, surveyed last year, only backed a name change by a slim 52 percent majority.

Web users were quick to point to uncomfortable similarities between her chosen name and the wartime Rassemblement National Populaire (RNP) party which collaborated with the Nazis.

"What's the point of the name change -- to clean up their image? Not sure that'll go well, take a look at Google," said one Twitter user, noting the RNP's page topped search results for the new name.

**Hawking dies at 76**

Renowned British physicist Stephen **Hawking**, whose mental genius and physical disability made him a household name and inspiration across the globe, died Wednesday aged 76.

Propelled to superstardom by his 1988 book "A Brief History of Time", which became an unlikely worldwide bestseller, **Hawking** dedicated his life to unlocking the secrets of the Universe.

His genius and wit won over fans from far beyond the rarified world of astrophysics, earning comparisons with Albert Einstein and Sir Isaac Newton.

Prime Minister Theresa May was among the first to pay tribute, writing on Twitter that **Hawking** was "a brilliant and extraordinary mind" whose legacy "will not be forgotten".

**Hawking** defied predictions he would only live for a few years after developing a form of motor neurone disease in his early 20s.

The illness gradually robbed him of mobility, leaving him confined to a wheelchair, almost completely paralysed and unable to speak except through his trademark voice synthesiser.

Inside the shell of his increasingly useless body was a razor-sharp mind, with an enduring fascination with the mysteries of black holes.

His work focused on bringing together relativity -- the nature of space and time -- and quantum theory -- how the smallest particles behave -- to explain the creation of the Universe and how it is governed.

"My goal is simple," he once said. "It is complete understanding of the universe, why it is as it is and why it exists at all."

**Skin deep: researchers**

**Jupiter**'s tempestuous, gassy atmosphere stretches some 3,000 kilometres (1,860 miles) deep and comprises a hundredth of the **planet**'s mass, studies based on observations by NASA's Juno spacecraft revealed Wednesday.

The measurements shed the first light on what goes on beneath the surface of the largest **planet** in the Solar System, which from a distance resembles a colourful, striped glass marble.

"Galileo viewed the stripes on **Jupiter** more than 400 years ago. Until now, we only had a superficial understanding of them," said Yohai Kaspi from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel, an author of one of four studies published in Nature.

Up to a depth of about 3,000 km, Juno's data showed, **Jupiter** comprises a psychedelic swirl of cloud bands and jet streams blown by powerful winds, in opposite directions and at different speeds.

But underneath, the **planet**'s liquid core of hydrogen and helium rotates uniformly, behaving almost like a solid body, researchers found.

"The result is a surprise because this indicates that the atmosphere of **Jupiter** is massive and extends much deeper than we previously expected," Kaspi told AFP.

**Dutch snowboarder wins Paralympic gold after cancer surgery**

Dutch snowboarder **Bibian** **Mentel-Spee** won gold at the Winter Paralympics on Monday in a stunning victory after having cancer surgery twice in recent months.

**Mentel-Spee** came first in the women's snowboard-cross, in the category for people with leg impairments. She beat her teammate Lisa Bunschoten in the final.

It was a remarkable triumph after the veteran snowboarder had two rounds of surgery following the discovery of a cancerous tumour in her neck, the first in December and the second in January.

**PSG president visits injured Neymar in Brazil**

Paris Saint-Germain president Nasser Al-Khelaifi has visited injured superstar **Neymar** at his luxury home in **Brazil** amid rumors swirling about the striker's intention to quit PSG.

The star's father, **Neymar** Santos Sr, posted pictures late Monday of the meeting on Instagram. "Visit of the day at @neymarjr! Thanks @PSG," he wrote.

In one picture, **Neymar** gives the thumb's up, flanked by Al-Khelaifi and his father. Another picture shows the club president with Antero Henrique, sports director at PSG, and Jean-Martial Ribes, the club spokesman.

On Tuesday they were expected to visit **Neymar**'s charity center, the **Neymar** Junior Institute

**Shark**  
A giant fossilised tooth from a prehistoric **shark** has gone missing from a supposedly secret location at a remote Australian World Heritage site, and wildlife officials want it back.

The well-preserved tooth, which could be valuable to collectors, is an estimated 2-2.5 million years old and belonged to a Megalodon, regarded as one of the largest and most powerful fish to have ever lived.

"It had quite defined features on it, so you could see the serrated edge of the **shark**'s tooth, it was probably one of the better specimens we knew of," said Arvid Hogstrom from Parks and Wildlife in Western Australia