

Beat: Politics

## **MASSIVE YELLOW DEMONSTRATION IN FRANCE TO PROTEST AGAINST FUEL PRICE RISE**

### **AND PURCHASING POWER LOWERING**

Paris, Wahsington DC, 16.11.2018, 12:59 Time

**USPA NEWS** - A massive Citizen mobilization was successfully set up throughout all parts of France, by calling up for rally for protesting on Saturday and continues in places this Sunday. The demonstrators were wearing yellow vests, to protest symbolically, against the rise of the price of the fuel, but not only. Some others protested against the reduction of their purchasing power and what they consider too high and unfair, when it comes to the raise of new taxes delivered by the actual government. On the sidelines, one person died and hundreds more were injured. The demonstrators, had planned to block France against, including the increase in fuel taxes. They managed to mobilize. The "yellow vests" were indeed present from 6 am Saturday on the roads and other strategic points across the country. This Sunday, several actions and demonstrations were still in progress, in particular on the motorway network. Here are the numbers to remember: 2034 rallies, 287,710 protesters, 1 person killed, 409 wounded, 14 serious, 282 arrests. "28 police officers, gendarmes, motorcyclists, firefighters were injured and for some seriously," said Interior Minister Christophe Castaner.

### **POLICE HAS ARRESTED 282 PERSONS AND 157 IN CUSTODY-----**

Further the demonstration, the French Police, has allegedly arrested 282 persons and 157 in custody. Sunday morning, the Interior Minister, Christophe Castaner, reported 287,710 demonstrators gathered Saturday across the country on 2034 sites. Only access points have been blocked but no strategic axis, according to the ministry. Christophe Castaner also reported a change of profile of protesters in the evening, while clashes erupted in some cities in France. The demonstrators "good children" were transformed "with the arrival of breakers", according to a framework of the national gendarmerie. Molotov cocktails were thrown at law enforcement on the A4. "Slaughter sabers" were used in Reunion. "This night was hectic. (...) There were aggression, fights, stabbings, "confirmed Christophe Castaner. "There were fights between yellow vests. There was a lot of alcohol in some places, and that provoked these idiotic behaviors that can lead to violence, and there it becomes unacceptable, "lamented the Minister of the Interior.

In Troyes, a hundred people entered the prefecture where they "committed degradations" before redirecting to the town hall, which required the intervention of law enforcement, said the Director General of the National Police. Similar movements were observed in Laval, Mayenne, and Quimper, Finistere, where a water cannon was used to disperse the protesters. At this point, the police arrested 282 people, including 73 during the night, which resulted in 157 police custody.

"We are not thugs, we want it to remain pacifist", a "yellow vest" Among the most important mobilizations were those of Calvados, where the prefecture counted 3,500 demonstrators. In Gironde, about forty events, with between 2600 and 3000 participants, were noted by the prefecture.

### **ONE WOMAN KILLED AND HUNDREADS WOUNDED**

A female protester was killed at a roadblock by a motorist who, panicked, overthrew her. A person is thus in absolute emergency in Arras after being overthrown. In Hazebrouck, where a van forced a barrage of protesters, two people were injured. And according to the prefecture of the Alpes-Maritimes, a motorist tried in Grasse to force a blockade at a roundabout and injured a national policeman, "fortunately very lightly." Other incidents of this kind enamelled the morning. An undeclared protest in Savoie, at Pont-de-Beauvoisin, has turned into a tragedy. In total, according to ministry figures, 409 people were injured, 14 of them seriously. "Yellow Vests": a protester killed in Savoie after being hit by a car. Some protesters pushed back to the doors of the Elysée Palace (nearby the Champs Elysee, and Place la Concorde, in the 8th district of Paris) . At dawn, protesters, wearing their yellow waistcoats, went to the Paris ring road, Porte d'Auteuil and Porte Maillot, where they were greeted by the police. Eventually, the group was dislocated by the CRS who literally strangled the movement. Stuck on the sidewalk, some protesters chose to remove their yellow vests to be free again of their movements. "All that for that," lamented Cedric, a resident of Epernon in Eure-et-Loire, who came specially for the occasion ... Note that despite slowdowns, traffic remained fluid all day Saturday, according to the City Hall of Paris. Source AFP, BFM Prefecture of Paris, Ministry of Interior, and on field,

**Article online:**

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