

## FRANCE IMPOSES PCR TESTS OF LESS THAN 72 HOURS FOR EUROPEAN TRAVELERS

### PDT MACRON SAID AT EUROPEAN COUNCIL

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**USPA NEWS** - On the occasion of the European Council, which took place Thursday January 21, 2021, in videoconference, French President Emmanuel Macron announced that France imposes a PCR test carried out 72 hours before departure for most European travelers wishing to enter its territory, and this, from Sunday January 24 at 00 h 00. The measure concerns most European travelers wishing to enter French territory, announced the Elysee on Thursday evening. As far as the UK, is concerned, since Monday 18 January onwards, people authorized to travel to France from a country outside the European Union (including the UK) will have to present a negative PCR test when they board, prior to departure. Only PCR tests taken under 72 hours earlier is accepted when this measure comes into force on Monday 18 January. Antigen tests will no longer be accepted from that date onwards. The people concerned will also have to take a solemn oath to self-isolate for 7 days when they arrive in France, then take a second PCR test following that self-isolation period; Source : European Council, Elysee, French Ministry Foreign Affairs

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This obligation will apply "except essential trips", specified the Elysee: "The frontier workers and the ground transport will be in particular exempt". In the same register, the President of the European commission, Ursula Von Der Lyen, for her part recalled the current severity of the situation in Europe, vis-À-vis the pandemic due to COVID-19 "the very serious health situation", she declares. She added that "all non-essential travel should be strongly discouraged ». Mrs Von Der Lyen insisted on the importance of making the single market work ", and in particular making the transport of "essential workers and goods across the borders "of countries within the European Union more fluid. Today, in France, the toll is now close to 72,000 deaths, at the most updated counting of this evening, Thursday January 21, 2021, thus having exceeded in parallel the too high figure, of 20,000 cases per day, according to the point of view doctors, epidemiologists, with regard to the capacity of medical beds in Intensive Care, French hospitals.

### PRESIDENT MACRON ANNOUNCES THE MEASUREMENT OF PCR TESTS TO TRAVELLING TO FRANCE DURING THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL-----

This new barring measure to fight against the spread of COVID-19, and in particular also vis-À-vis the arrival of travelers carrying COVID-19 variant "British", had been mentioned on January 14, and submitted to travelers in from a country outside the European Union (EU). The only exceptions are cross-border workers and "essential" workers. For the sake of European harmonization, the European epidemic agency invited Member States to "prepare for a rapid escalation of the stringency of measures (to counter the virus) in the coming weeks in order to preserve the capacities of care, as well as speeding up vaccination campaigns ". France is currently in a curfew situation at 6 a.m., while other European countries have already tightened their restrictions in recent days, such as Germany on Tuesday which extended the confinement until February 14, The Netherlands announced Thursday evening a curfew from 9 pm.

#### Article online:

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**Editorial program service of General News Agency:**

United Press Association, Inc.  
3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168  
Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA  
(702) 943.0321 Local  
(702) 943.0233 Facsimile  
[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)  
[info@gna24.com](mailto:info@gna24.com)  
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