

Confronted with a government that sends CRS against them

The mobilisation of the youth is spreading

Marseille

The rector tries to justify the “reforms” to the representatives of the secondary school students...

Correspondent

10 December, for the fourth time, the secondary school students of Marseille demonstrated in the thousands.

A delegation from the student coordination was receive by the rector and under-prefect.

Reaction from a student after the meeting: “A young person said: ‘we need general knowledge, we need to study beautiful texts like Ronsard.’ And the rector responded: ‘There’s no need to learn beautiful texts to learn beautiful texts. What is needed is to prepare students for the world of work through oral preparation for job interviews and written preparation for writing a CV.’”

We heard incredible things. For example, another official said: “You don’t need maths to work. You can stop maths in junior secondary school.” This is what Macron’s reforms are for. How could we accept this?

... The secondary school student coordination responds: “We will continue to fight as long as our demands are not met”

“This morning we, the secondary school student coordination of Marseille, were received by the rector of the Aix-Marseille academy and the under-prefect of Aix-en-Provence to submit our demands (...).

The rector and under-prefect defended the reform of the bac and Parcoursup as the opportunity to decide one’s future and go where one wants. We do not agree.

NO, Mr. rector! We consider that the reform of the bac destroys the national value of the baccalaureate. Secondary school students will be selected according to where they obtained their diploma.

NO, Mr. rector! Parcoursup is not the solution; thousands of secondary school graduates found themselves without a university assignment at the end of the summer holiday, and most did not obtain the degree program of their choice.

NO, Mr. under-prefect! Tackling a student to the ground or the methods used at Mantes-la-Jolie are not solutions for bringing the youth who want to mobilise under control.

YES, Mr. rector! Learning “beautiful texts to learn beautiful texts” is essential for our general knowledge.

Yes, Mr. rector! We will continue to fight to the end as long as our demands are not heard.

We reaffirm our demands:

- repeal of Parcoursup;
- repeal of the reform of the baccalaureate;
- repeal of universal national service;
- abandonment of the increase of university fees;
- against expensive living and for an increase in grants.

We, secondary school students of the Marseille secondary school student coordination call massively to secondary school and university students and teachers to demonstrate, Tuesday 11 December, starting at Réformés de Marseille square at 10 am.”

Paris

Teachers and union members push back the CRS assault against the secondary school student demonstration

Friday 7 December, nearly 4,000 secondary school students were in the streets of Paris to demonstrate from Stalingrad to République.

Teachers and union militants from other professions were also present, in response to the call from their union organisations to protect the students. Some of them distributed the inter-union communiqué from the Île-de-France regional unions against the police repression of which the students are the victims.

I myself am a teacher. Young people thanked me for my presence, asked me when the unions would call a strike and my opinion of the situation. “We want Macron to resign”, said many secondary school students. “This reform of secondary schools is nonsense; even the teachers say that they don’t know how to teach us, since the new programs are so incoherent. The goal of the secondary school programs is to deprive us of instruction”, summarised a student.

A line to protect the young people

When the demonstration arrived at République, over 300 students kneeled down, hands on their heads, in reference to the videos of the students arrested at Mantes-la-Jolie...

A bit later, there was a provocation. Immediately, the stewards of the union organisations (FO, CGT, FSU, Solidaires, CNT) organised in a line which, to protect the young people, placed itself in front of the CRS, which then stepped back. The young people applauded as one. Then the students decided to organise a general assembly and headed toward the nearby Bourse du travail. When they arrived, the gates were closed. The Paris city government refused to open the union hall to the students, pretending they had received an order from the police prefecture to close the Bourse du travail! A unionist spoke on the megaphone before the young people to explain that he would propose a communiqué to the other union organisations for the Paris city government to let the unions run their hall as they see fit. The young people applauded. Then, calmly, they decided to organise the assembly on République square, in the rain.

At the Voltaire campus, as in many other of the country’s establishments...

At the Voltaire campus in the 11th arrondissement of Paris, as in many other establishments in the country, the teachers, with their unions, have met in recent days to define their demands, often deciding to strike, denouncing “the government (which) locks itself into its policies of social vandalism and (which) responds with police repression, notably as regards the youth mobilising against Parcoursup and the Blanquer reform” (motion by the teachers of Voltaire, calling to strike 11 and 14 December, with the union sections SNES-FSU, SN-FO-LC, SUD-Education).

Toulouse

After the students, the teachers get moving

In Toulouse, teachers from Saint-Sernin, on strike, also stood in front of this renowned city-centre institution, which has around 2,000 students. On the menu for the early morning, racing the famous Roman basilica: the distribution of tracts to convince colleagues to join their fight. In the late morning, 68% of the teachers present were on strike.

“This a teacher mobilization that is being built here, as well as around fifteen other establishments, of the secondary schools of the Toulouse area. It is progressively extending to other departments”, explains René Domergue, history-geography teacher and member of SNES-FSU.

The striking teachers have numerous grievances against the decisions of their minister, Jean-Michel Blanquer. Put out by the elimination of posts, they, like many of their students, are also strongly against the Parcoursup system and the reform of secondary schools which will take effect in the 2019-2020 school year. “Our movement fits into the framework of the larger social discontent expressed by the ‘yellow vests’, as well as by the students”, observes the history-geography teacher.

(read on 20minutes.fr, 11 December)

Lyon

Over 4000 secondary school students in a cloud of tear gas

Friday 7 December, between 4,000 and 5,000 students demonstrated in Lyon. Contrary to the provocative title of *Progrès* Saturday (“Secondary student demonstration: between confrontments and damages”), the demonstrations went well. It was the police who did everything possible to make it degenerate.

According to a student at the head of the procession, “at one moment, without knowing why, the police gassed gratuitously. From then on, the spirits were a bit tense, but nothing really nasty. We just chanted louder. At a crossroads, albeit on the official route, they blocked us for no reason. There were a few projectiles thrown, but those who threw them were reprimanded by the other demonstrators. We were finally able to continue, until the moment they decided we wouldn’t go any further. They gassed us from in front and from behind, we all took tear gas right in the face without being able to do anything. In fact, they did everything possible for it to go wrong.”

After the demonstration, a general assembly of over 700 students with the student and teacher unions at the podium was held at the Bourse du travail. During the general assembly, the students reminded of the demands: repeal of Parcoursup, no more selection at the universities, no increase of inscription fees for foreign students, preservation of degree programs, the refusal of universal national service.

The teachers and their unions reaffirmed their support for the students and to help them to organise.

Lycée Colbert (Lyon): The students supported by the teacher's general assembly

Some students came at 7:30 am, this Monday 10 December, to meet with the teachers and explain that they would demonstrate tomorrow against Parcoursup, the reform of secondary schools and the bac and the elimination of posts.

The teachers asked the direction for the students to be able to meet safely, which was granted at 9:15.

In general assembly, the students announced they would block the establishment the next day. The teachers met in an extraordinary general assembly between noon and 1:00 with the union sections FO and SNES. They decided to write a letter to the parents and students to explain why they also demand the repeal of the reform of the bac, that of secondary education and of Parcoursup. They distributed a tract to the parent who came to the parent-teacher meeting in the evening and would distribute it once more, Tuesday, to the students and parents.

Some of the teachers committed to coming the next morning at 7:30 to support the students in their actions.

A disgrace!

The police made 150 secondary school and junior secondary school students (the youngest, 12 years old), kneel with their hands behind their heads.

Friday, 7 December, Mantes-la-Jolie.

“Now is the moment, everyone on strike Friday, 14 December”

In recent days, many unions and departmental unions have taken position for the immediate stopping of the repression of the youth, to the point that the principal teaching unions and federations, with the secondary school and university student organisations, on the national level, have launched, this 11 December, a call, in unity, for general assemblies everywhere, for the strike of 14 December, for the satisfaction of demands and for the protection of the youth in the call we reprint below.

“The undersigned union organisation of the National Education and Higher Education and Research, gathered Tuesday, 11 December, demand:

- the general increase of salaries and wages;
- the defence of public services;
- the repeal of the Parcoursup system and the ORE law;
- the repeal of the reforms of secondary education;
- the annulation of the increase of inscription fees for foreigners from outside the EU.

The social revolt is brewing in this country against the antisocial policies of the Macron government. The secondary school students are mobilised and demand the repeal of Parcoursup and the Blanquer reforms (of the bac, of lycées, of professional training and of teacher training). We demand that the

government immediately stop the unheard-of repression of the secondary school students (humiliation, mutilation...) as well as lifting of police measures around the establishments.

We call:

- to strike, Friday 14 December and to join the demonstrations;
- the personnel as well as the students to mobilise everywhere, beginning tomorrow, to mobilise alongside the secondary school students, as well as alongside those who struggle against the antisocial policies of the government;
- to participate in the mobilisations of Thursday 13 December for scientific employment and against the increase of inscription fees for non-EU students (2,770 euros in licence, 3,770 euros in master);
- to generalise the holding of general assemblies, from now on, to decide the next steps in the mobilisations.

The undersigned organisations will meet Friday evening.”

CNT-FE, FERC-CGT, FNEC-FP-FO, SNEP-FSU, SNES-FSU, Snesup-FSU, SUD-Education, SUD-Recherche-EPST, Sundep-Solidaires, Solidaires Etudiant.es, Unef, INL, UNL-SD

In the universities

Call from the inter-university general assembly gathered 1à December at Paris-Clignancourt

“10 December, we were over 350 gathered in inter-university general assembly at Clignancourt. For over a week, the secondary school students have been mobilised. They say no to the reform of the bac, no to Parcoursup, no to the policies of Macron.

They are right!

Their demands are our own!

- We demand the annulation of the increase of inscription fees for foreign students.
- the repeal of Parcoursup.
- the repeal of universal national service.
- the repeal of the reforms of the bac and licence.
- the repeal of the CVEC.
- the repeal of the Blanquer reform.

We call to join the secondary school students in the demonstrations of the 11th (St. Michel square, at noon), the 13th (Jussieu, 1 pm, to head to Campus France at 2:30), 14 December and to join the yellow vests with the inter-university and inter-train-station processions!

We call to the students and teachers to come together in general assemblies and decide the actions necessary for the satisfaction of these demands, including going on strike!”

University Paris III: “Our General Assembly brought together over 600 students”

We became aware of the law of 19 November that increases the inscription fees for foreign students from outside the EU. People had voted for Macron in the second round because there was Marine Le Pen, and now it's Macron who attacks foreigners.

At Paris III, 30% of the students are foreigners. We said to ourselves: we can't take this sitting down. We organised an emergency general assembly, full of students who responded to our call. The 4 December general assembly brought together over 600 students, foreign or not. Everyone understood that we will all see our inscription fees increase. The board of directors of Paris III has taken position against this law, but it's not enough.

Directly, we talked about the context of the yellow vests, a movement that carried with it popular demands. We are told that 5 euros per year will pay for one thing or another, the same for the 90 euros of the CVEC (contribution to student life, in addition to the inscription fees – editor's note), it would feed the state budget. But we can't take it any longer. We can only hear and support the anger of the yellow vests and the general feeling of being fed up.

We support the secondary students in their action, their demands, against the police repression.

We voted to depart in demonstration Saturday to join the march of the yellow vests.

The attacks we suffer are unheard of. The contestation as well: there is a spontaneous uprising, which is nonetheless organised. We have an interest to involve ourselves in it.

And now, we see that the government has begun to be overwhelmed, to show its weakness. Now is the time.

Elsa, student

The government's ferocious repression of the demonstrators

In the days preceding the demonstrations of Saturday 8 December, the government was careful to announce an emergency measure of “keeping order”, with the goal of discouraging the population from once again descending into the streets: 89,000 police deployed throughout France, 8,000 in Paris alone, accompanied by 12 armoured cars, and the Minister of Justice announcing in advance that the courts would have to manage 600-800 people in custody in Paris alone.

Already, Saturday 1 December, the repression had reached a level of violence not seen in several decades. That day, in Paris alone, 8,000 tear-gas grenades were launched (one every five seconds!), 1,193 shots of bean bag rounds were recorded (one every thirty-six seconds!). Whereas during all of the demonstrations against the work law in 2016, when the state of emergency was still in effect, 418 sting-ball grenades had been used, 1,140 of these grenades (the danger of which is furthermore admitted) were launched in Paris in one day.

In the following days, tens of demonstrators were judged in the framework of expeditious procedures (immediate trials), and in most cases condemned to several months of prison. The lawyers and journalists present underlined that, among these people, there were neither “professional vandals” nor “extreme-right fanatics”, as was announced by the government and others.

Everyone has seen the images of these 150 secondary school students at Mantes-la Jolie arrested, corralled, humiliated... The violation of their rights did not stop there: although the presence of a lawyer is mandatory during the custody of a minor, tens of them were interrogated in the absence of their lawyer.

This Saturday 8 December, the police took 1,220 people into custody, over 900 of whom in Paris (versus 378, 1 December). Many were “incited” by the police not to ask for a lawyer. Many of those who nonetheless demanded one nevertheless went to hearing without. This is the response of “Macron the progressive” to the legitimate anger of the population.

The journalist unions denounce “unacceptable abuses” from the police

Four journalist unions deplored, 10 December, the “many wounded among the field journalists, reporters and photographers” who were covering the yellow-vest demonstrations Saturday 8 December and condemned “the unacceptable abuses from the police forces, notably in Paris”.

The SNJ, the SNJ-CGT, the CFDT-journalistes and the SGJ-FO demanded, in a common communiqué “explanations from the police prefecture, from the Minister of the Interior and from the government on that were given that have led to this situation”. “From 8 in the morning, Saturday, numerous press photographers, clearly identified as such, had their personal protection equipment confiscated, sometimes with the threat of police custody”, declared the unions.

They cited, notably, the cases of two photographers from *Le Parisien* targeted by bean-bag rounds, that of a photographer from *Journal du dimanche* who was hospitalised after being beaten by a CRS, and said that around twenty testimonies from their colleagues “aimed at, sometimes intentionally targeted, beaten or manhandled by law enforcement” had made their way to them in recent hours. “It is totally unacceptable in a democratic country and in a state subject to the rule of law that the public authorities do not guarantee the freedom of information”, they deplored.

Echoes from our correspondents

Cahors (Lot)

“We will continue!”

Saturday 8 December, in Cahors, the yellow-vest demonstration brought together 250 demonstrators at the beginning and 450 two hours later. Leaving Gambetta square, they chanted: “Macron, resign!”, “Macron in prison”, “We aren’t tired, we will continue” and “the people united will never be beaten”. In front of city hall, the demonstration stopped, and demonstrators got down on their knees with their hands on their heads, in reference to the repression of the secondary school students of Mantes-la-Jolie.

There were also many signs this week: “Macron = taxes + taxes = revolution 2018”, “be the change” as well as “poverty/climate, same causes, same fight” ...

An educator told us: “Capitalism is destroying the climate. The system must be changed.”

Within the procession, we recognised militants from La France insoumise, the PCF, the CGT and Force ouvrière. A CGT militant explained: “I dropped by the UD to say that they should create a link with the yellow-vest demonstration.”

Donges (Loire-Atlantique)

City hall refuses to give in to the gendarmerie's order

Seen on the website of the yellow vests of the “people’s house of Saint-Nazaire and the surrounding area”, this declaration from Donges city hall: “The gendarmerie requested this morning, on instructions from the authorities, that the municipal technical services go destroy and remove the yellow vests’ shacks set up at Six-Croix and in front of the train station.

The mayor refused this demand, considering that the shacks didn’t in any way hinder vehicle traffic. The mayor firmly opposes this will to destroy, which is nothing but an attempt to uselessly destroy a symbol of the yellow vests, while, for the state, it is time for appeasement and not escalation.”

Tarascon (Bouches-du-Rhône)

Roundabout occupied in front of the factory on strike

For ten days, the roundabout in front of the Fibre Excellence factory of Tarascon and the bridge allowing to cross the Rhône, as well as the access between the department Bouches-du-Rhône and the Gard, have been blocked starting at 4:30 am – some sleep at the roundabout so as not to be dislodged.

Many employees of the factory come to the roundabout with their yellow vest outside their working hours. Thousands of tracts are distributed to all the vehicles that pass: these tracts express Macron’s illegitimacy with his 17% of the votes in the election, the demands, democracy (revocability of elected officials, deputies paid the salary of an average worker), the states lie tied to the pretended Social Security deficit.

Several days of strike with the stoppage of the factory’s activities made management pull back on a few points but, recently, human resources declared: “Today, no employer respects the Labour Code” and keeps to its will to not respect the enterprise agreements concerning overtime and complementary health insurance.

The yellow vests get a secondary school student released

A negotiation, the third, is planned for this Tuesday 11 December. In the evening, a general assembly of Force ouvrière members, inviting sympathisers, plans to decide a mandate to entrust to the representatives of the personnel. Maybe it will be to strike with demands despite the enormous pressure suffered by the workers at their workplace.

Late last week, the secondary school students of Tarascon blocked the roundabout in front of their school. A delegation of yellow vests went to propose that they join them at the factory. The yellow vests were applauded.

In the following moments, the municipal police arrested a student. The yellow-vest delegation went immediately to the station to demand the reasons for this police custody.

The delegation stayed in front of the station for an hour, then the police released the student.

Toulouse

In a general assembly of yellow vests: "This here is democracy"

Sunday 9 December, 3:30 pm, in the parking lot of the boating centre of the lake of Sesquières, 30 kilometres north of Toulouse, a general assembly of yellow vests from Haute-Garonne was held with 500 participants.

A few retired people, a lot of women, a lot of young people, students, families with their children, bikers, artisans and unemployed people were present, including a recently-fired construction manager.

Three organisers had declared the general assembly at the prefecture: "Yellow vests, pacifist and constructive."

The principal organiser set out the framework of the debate and said: "The only question is: do we structure ourselves or not? Any person who goes outside the framework will have the microphone cut. I'll make a proposal: two delegates for the region, one man and one woman. But we won't be candidate for anything. Cauchy (yellow-vest spokesman to the media, who had said, two days earlier "I quit the yellow vests, I create the yellow lemons"), we got rid of him, say no more. Each speaker will have three minutes."

At least forty participants spoke in a two-hour discussion. A participant introduced himself in the debate as a CGT labour unionist and was applauded like all the speakers.

In the beginning, most of the speeches came down against any structuration. "We don't want to be corrupted or bought men, we don't need a spokesman. We are the spokesmen." The yellow vests want to control their movement to the end. They don't want to be hijacked. Some called for a citizen-initiative referendum. The majority said: "We won't back down!"

Another proposition was made: "To have representatives by drawing lots or in alternation." The organiser insisted on having representatives. But even those who were for in the beginning said: "We need safeguards: if the guy doesn't respect our mandate, he has to be revoked."

In the beginning, a single vote was planned: "Do we structure ourselves or not." But after a third of the speeches, the discussion changed. The majority made a distinction: "Structuration on the ideas and demands: yes. But representation by delegates: no."

Different voting modalities were proposed. Voting by a show of hands or a ballot box were discarded. In the end it would be by the movement of the crowd: on one side "for", on the other "against", and under the rain, the abstentionists.

The results of the vote on the "structuration on the ideas and demands": 55% for, 45% against.

Second vote, on the representation by delegates: 100% against.

The organiser then said: "This here is democracy." And at the end, a unanimous shout, from all the participants, for several minutes: "Macron, resign!"

A new general assembly will be organised in the coming days to discuss a platform of demands to coordinate on. It will be prepared by two other yellow vests (one man, one woman).

All the general assembly was filmed. Speeches and votes will be sent out on social networks.

Contribution by Yves Montagny, union militant at the Toulon arsenal

“When the yellow-vest movement began, after a few days, I went to the Bandol tollbooth, where they were doing “free-tollbooth” operations. I found the people there, in all their diversity. And us, at the CGT, because we are afraid of the *Rassemblement national*, we won’t do anything anymore? We have a lot of demands in common with the yellow vests, notably concerning wages. The union movement is weakening, in the sense that it is growing old. In the yellow vests, there is more of the youth. We must be alongside the yellow vests with our demands. What are we waiting for? They have over 80% of the public opinion on their side.

It’s been years that we’ve asked ourselves when this revolution would happen, and here it is. We must come together with our demands and not simply stop at the doors of our business. What pisses me off is not being with the yellow vests with my CGT flag! The CGT must mobilise with its own demands, hoping that a convergence happens naturally.”

Amiens (Somme)

“It’s from below that it will be decided. This is what we are expressing with this movement.”

Saturday 8 December, 10:30 am, the yellow vests were demonstrating at the roundabouts of a shopping centre in southwest Amiens. They were students, retired people, artisans, factory workers (from Valeo, for example), public employees (territorial). They came together, organised naturally and calmly went forward, facing trucks of CRS parked alongside.

We were two comrades from POI who engaged a conversation with them with the help of the “off-print” of *Informations ouvrières*: “We’ve come to bring you the echoes from the yellow-vest movement throughout France. This is in the newspaper *Informations ouvrières*, it’s a workers’ newspaper; it’s not BFM TV.” The reception was very good. They did not want these media in the service of those in power that falsify reality and denigrate their fight.

The attitude of the union leaderships came back up in all the discussion, notably the recent agreement by the truck-driver federation, who had lifted the strike: “We could have gone forward together. With the truck drivers, we could have had the means to make (the government) give in, because truck drivers aren’t nothing, they’re an important force for blocking the country”, said a student.

A unionist, territorial civil servant, continued: “It’s disgusting. There’s nothing left to do with them. It’s from below that it will be decided. This is what we are expressing with this movement.”

The demonstration reached a roundabout where there were CGT militants.

Alpes-Maritimes

“The yellow vests, they made the government back down”

Last Friday (7 December), I was questioned by some colleagues at work: “We want to know what you think of the situation.” We had an improvised meeting. Some had been at the roadblocks for two weeks.

A colleague said: “We go on strike at work, we gain some things. But on the national level, you have to admit that we haven’t gained anything in a very long time. And the yellow vests, they made the government pull back.”

Another said: “For the moment, the big battalions of the CGT are not on strike. We don’t understand Martinez’s position. What’s going on?”

We discussed, including a series of union calls that, here and there, posed the problem of convening general assemblies and striking on the demands.

And my colleagues, those that were at the roadblocks, said: “And all this situation, where could it lead politically? Doesn’t it, in the end, call capital into question?”

Another added: “I would pose the question like this: can we go on with these policies? My response is no. So, it’s up to us to take things in hand.”

These comrades, these colleagues, have a rightful place in the committee of resistance and reconquest. Between the lines, isn’t the question of a representation of the working class posed?

Since 10 November, we have multiplied little meetings in our department around the call of the CNRR, including with the youth. They appreciated the call from the UD CGT with UNL, calling to protect the secondary school students, which, in effect, happened Friday 7 December.

So, we will multiply these meetings. To discuss what? It’s simple: what those who are at the roundabouts are discussing today! We have a support for this: the call from the CNRR, adopted 10 November, and the newspaper.

No need to look for a roundabout!

You’ll find yellow vests almost everywhere, especially in the workplaces. Many of my colleagues at Social Security are or support the yellow vests

Correspondent from Social Security

One of my POI comrades told me that in a service of twelve people threatened with transfer and who were resisting with the unions, nine colleagues were in the street 24 November. The comrade had lunch with three of these public servants and a local committee of resistance and reconquest was to be set up for 12 December.

In my service, a plan of closing sites dropped the day after 17 November. A petition was submitted to the comrades of mu union section and other union organisations.

This fight has come at the moment when a strike is being prepared at Social Security, 18 December. The yellow vests passed through, and the reactions during the union rounds were unusual.

Last week, a colleague told me: “I hope you are with the yellow vests.” I told him I shared their anger, thus the call to strike the 18.

The head of my department questioned me, saying: “Were you there the 24th? Me, I was there, and I don’t regret not having voted in the second round! And then, for the strike, I’m motivating my managers!”

A colleague also said: “We don’t have the money for petrol, and they tell us to buy a new car!” And here, the killer question: “Are you yellow?” I laughed. I explained what being yellow means among unionists, but I added that, of course, I supported the yellow vests’ demands that were in harmony with our own. We want better pay, and the yellow vests are attached to Social Security.

In a discussion, a young colleague asked how we had won Social Security. A colleague, the oldest, said: “It was only by striking! All that we had, it was by striking. They didn’t give us anything.”

So, in fact, the roundabouts are in our services and it’s normal that, at Social Security, where we are 80% women and salaries are pitiful, the yellow vests speak to them, but their union organisations as well, since they make the connection between the yellow vests’ grievances and the demands carried by our unions.

Next week, during the lunch break, I’m going to talk with several colleagues about *Informations ouvrières*: it will be a CLRR, Local café of resistance and reconquest!

“Macron has certainly forgotten a bit of Machiavelli...”

The point of view of a demonstrator who came to Paris, 8 December

Emmanuel Macron has certainly forgotten a bit of Machiavelli, who said “for a prince, it is necessary to have the friendship of the people; otherwise, in adversity, he has no remedy”, and that it “will be easy for him, since the people only ask not to be oppressed” and also: “With a hostile people, a prince can never be safe, because they are too many.”

The yellow vest mobilisation on the Champs-Élysées was impressive. We were 4000 to 5000. Entering the avenue was easy by way of rue de La Boétie. Having arrived a bit later than last Saturday, around 9:30 – the metro didn’t serve the “good stations” – we had to walk. Friendly atmosphere until my departure at 2:30 pm. However, we can’t forget the yellow vests that roamed the other avenues of the capital, who were also in the thousands.

But what can be said of the police presence! Our president implemented exceptional security means! But when will he implement such exceptional means in favour of justice (fiscal, among others) and solidarity? The yellow vest movement is still supported by a large majority of the French (over 70%), it must not be forgotten, all the more since it is not ready to settle down. Eh! Yes, I maintain what I said at the meeting of the local committee of resistance and reconquest, last Wednesday: no union or political party is legitimate to interfere with this revolt of the people. Individually, if someone joins the demonstration in the field, he should put on a yellow vest. Now, it’s up to any union or party to know if, officially it supports the moment. In this case, he takes the demands as his own and, from his side, help things along. Will there be a truce at Christmas?

J. A., La Rochelle (Charente-Maritime).