

Hundreds arrested as pension protests grip France

March 17 (UPI) — More than 300 people have been arrested amid protests against French President Emmanuel Macron's decision to bypass the French legislature to apply changes to pension policy, including an increase to the age of eligibility from 62 to 64.

Most of the arrests were in Paris, French Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin told the local RTL radio station. Hundreds of protesters there briefly blocked traffic early Friday.

Darmanin warned against disruptive actions, which have included burning effigies of government officials, targeting public buildings and starting fires.

"The opposition is legitimate, the protests are legitimate, but wreaking havoc is not," he said, according to The Guardian.

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