

French president says colonial statues will not be removed



Paris, June 16 (RHC)-- French President Emmanuel Macron has vowed to stand firm against racism, while also insisting that France would not take down statues of controversial, colonial-era figures, as he addressed the issues for the first time since George Floyd's death in the United States.

In a televised address to the nation on Sunday evening, Macron called for the nation's "unity" at a key moment when the country is trying to put the coronavirus crisis behind while being shaken by a series of protests against racial injustice and police brutality.

Echoing American protesters, demonstrators in France have expressed anger at discrimination within French society, particularly toward minorities from the country's former colonies in Africa.

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