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May 19th – 26th 2025

ABC

Speculation is swirling about who could be Pope Francis's successor after his death. But because of the way new popes are elected, it can be a complex question to answer. Vatican researchers already reckon several contenders for the position. They have to be elected by a vote. Only cardinals — who are the second-highest-ranking members of the church under the pope — vote in this election. And that's only if they're under the age of 80. There are currently 136 cardinals in that category, according to the Vatican press office's cardinal dashboard.

THE GUARDIAN

UK scientists are to launch outdoor geoengineering experiments as part of a £50m government-funded programme. Geoengineering is controversial and some previous planned outdoor experiments have been cancelled after strong opposition. Most geoengineering proposals aim to block sunlight reaching the Earth's surface, for example by launching clouds of reflective particles into the atmosphere or using seawater sprays to make clouds brighter. If successful, this could temporarily reduce surface temperatures and the harm the climate crisis is causing.

ITV NEWS

How do we solve the problem of 'toxic masculinity'?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNiMVQqe_hY&ab_channel=ITVNews



to swirl /'swɜ:l/: tourbillonner, ici dans le sens de «les rumeurs vont bon train»

Ø Pope Francis ▲ noter que “Pope Francis” n’est pas précédé d’un article car il s’agit d’un titre (ex: Ø President Trump, Ø King Charles). Également, le génitif « 's » est exceptionnellement répété pour le nom « Francis » malgré le -s final. L’apostrophe est maintenue seule dans le cas de noms pluriels (ex : the kids’ uncle).

to reckon /'rekən/ = to estimate

con'tenders = candidates

the second 'highest-ranking /,haɪst' ræŋkɪŋ/ : les deuxièmes plus haut placés

dashboard /'dæʃbɔ:d/ : tableau de bord

scientists: des scientifiques, le nom ≠ scientifique : scientifique, l’adjectif.

to launch: lancer,

Geoengineering – or Climate Engineering is the intentional large-scale alteration of the planetary environment to counteract anthropogenic climate change.

ex'periments: des expériences, des expérimentations

to fund = to finance

controversial = problematic

a proposal /prə'pəʊzl/= a plan

to block/blɒk/ **sunlight** /'sʌnlaɪt/: bloquer la lumière du soleil

reflective particles /'pɑ:ˈtɪkʰlɜ:/: des particules réfléchissantes

sea'water : l’eau de mer

'temperatures /'temprətʃəz/

harm /'hɑ:fm/ : damage

0:03 – **MPs** = Members of Parliament

0:04 – **has been shunned for too long** : a été évitée trop longtemps

0:34 – **to open up**: s’ouvrir, se confier

0:52 – **a name that keeps cropping up** : un nom qui ne cesse d’être mentionné

1:12 – **to seek out**: chercher

1:30 – **to be stuck in old times**: être bloqué dans le passé

1:55 – **to be sparked by**: être déclenché par

1:57 – **drama**: un drame, une série

2:02 – **stabbing**: une attaque au couteau

2:07 – **to strike** (struck, struck) **a chord** : toucher la corde sensible

2:37 – **to man up**: se ressaisir, être un homme

2:46 – **to grip this issue**: se saisir du problème

3:02 – **to fit into**: s’adapter à

3:24 – **appalling**: épouvantable

What will the UK Supreme Court gender ruling mean in practice? A legal expert explains

Adapted from *THE CONVERSATION*, April 25th, 2025

The Supreme Court's decision in *For Women Scotland Ltd v The Scottish Ministers* will mean changes in how trans people in the UK access services and single-sex spaces. In the highly anticipated judgment announced April 17, the court ruled that the definition of "sex", "man" and "woman" in the Equality Act refers to "biological sex". It found that this does not include those who hold a gender recognition certificate (trans people who have had their chosen gender legally recognised). In simple terms, "women" does not include transgender women.

It is important to note that the court's remit was focused on interpretation of existing laws, not creating policy. The court affirmed that trans people should not be discriminated against, nor did they intend to provide a definition of sex or gender outside of the application of the Equality Act. The prime minister has said he welcomes the "real clarity" brought by the ruling. But while it may bring some legal clarity, questions remain about the practical implementation. The judgment also raises new questions about the operation of the Gender Recognition Act, and what it now means to hold a gender recognition certificate.

The gender-critical feminist group For Women Scotland challenged the Scottish government's guidance on the operation of the Equality Act in relation to a Scottish law that sets targets for increasing the proportion of women on public boards. The definition of a "woman" for the purposes of that law included trans women who had undergone, or were proposing to undergo, gender reassignment.

The issue that the court had to address was whether a person with a full gender recognition certificate (GRC) which recognises that their gender is female, is a "woman" for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010. The act gives protection to people who are at risk of unlawful discrimination. The court's decision was that the meaning of "sex" was biological and so references in the act to "women" and "men" did not, therefore, apply to trans women or trans men who hold GRCs.

The Gender Recognition Act 2004 introduced gender recognition certificates (GRCs), which certify that a person's legal gender is different from their assigned gender at birth. A trans person can apply for a GRC in order to change their gender on their birth certificate. For legal purposes, they are then recognised as their acquired gender. The ruling does not strike down or affect the operation of the Gender Recognition Act. But it does give the impression that the GRA – and holding a GRC – is now less effective.

The ruling clarifies that a trans woman who has a GRC and is recognised legally in her acquired gender can be excluded from single-sex spaces on the ground of biological sex, as would a trans woman without a GRC. Before the ruling, a trans person with a GRC would have been able to access many single-sex spaces and services that match the gender on their GRC.

In order to be granted a GRC, a person must show that they have lived in their acquired gender for at least two years and that they intend to live in that gender until death. Their application must be approved by two doctors, but – in what was a world-first at the time it was introduced – does not require any medical transition.

A 'ruling : une décision de justice = a judgement

The E'quality /ɪ'kwɒləti/ **Act** - is an act of the UK

Parliament consolidating anti-discrimination laws aiming at protecting against discrimination in employment on grounds of sexual orientation, age, and religion or belief. The act protects people against discrimination, harassment or victimisation based on: age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, and religion or belief.

a remit : un renvoi

not...nor = ne pas... ni

to be discriminated against : être discriminé

to set targets : déterminer des objectifs

to raise new questions : soulever de nouvelles questions

public boards : des comités publics.

for the purposes /'pɜːrpsɪz/ : ici, dans le cadre de

to 'under' go (underwent, undergone) = to endure

'whether = if

'un'lawful [aɪ] = illegal

'therefore = as a consequence

to strike/'straɪk/ down = to invalidate

'single-sex : non-mixte