

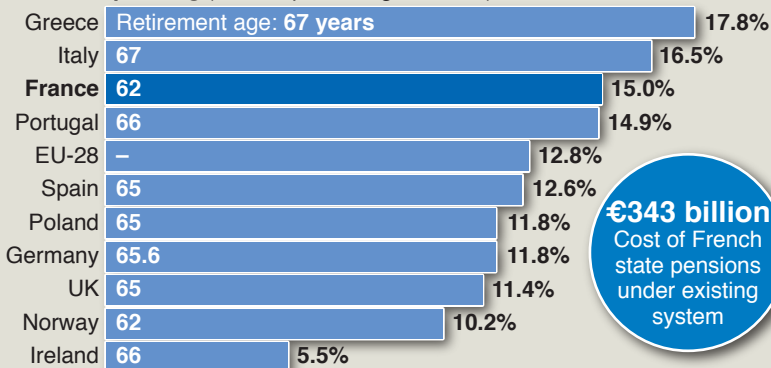
France's heated debate over pensions

President Emmanuel Macron's controversial pension reforms aim to streamline benefits and address inequality in France's pension system. Unions have responded with crippling nationwide strikes



Macron: Wants to replace 42 state pension regimes with single points-based system

Pension spending (cost as percentage of GDP)



€343 billion
Cost of French state pensions under existing system



€1,400: Current average monthly state pension

€1,000: Proposed minimum monthly pension for those who have worked full career

Points-based system: Each day worked earns points for worker's future pension benefits

Retirement age: Mandatory minimum retirement age of 62 – Macron wants fixed new retirement age of 64

Concessions: Reforms will not affect anyone born before 1975 and apply in full to people entering labour market after 2022

