

5 women arrested in southern France in suspected attack plot

From the [Reuters](#)

PARIS – Police in southern France have arrested four women and a girl as part of an anti-terrorist investigation into a suspected attack plot targeting the city of Montpellier.

A police official in the Hérault region confirmed the overnight arrests in the city of Beziers, and said Sunday that the DGSI domestic intelligence service and national anti-terrorist prosecutor's office are handling the investigation.

Investigators centered on an 18-year-old woman living in a housing project in Beziers who is suspected of plotting an attack targeting nearby Montpellier, according to Mayor Robert Menard. The 18-year-old's mother and three sisters were also arrested, including one who is a minor, he said.

The 18-year-old had "boasted" to neighbors about watching Islamic State videos, Menard told The Associated Press, though he said he didn't know whether she or her family had been on authorities' radar for radicalism.

Asked about the investigation and arrests, which took place overnight, government spokesman Gabriel Attal told LCI TV that he had no further information at this stage about what the possible plot was targeting.

However there are suggestions in other newspapers that the target was a church or churches, during the celebration of Easter, our most important Christian festival.