

# G8: who's who at Gleneagles Summit

In 1975 the world's largest economies – France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the U.S. – met at Rambouillet, France to form the Group of Six. They were joined by Canada at the 1976 summit in Puerto Rico and Russia completed the G8 in 1998 in Birmingham, England

## UNITED KINGDOM

### Prime Minister Tony Blair

Current President of G8. Blair's agenda focuses on **poverty** – looking to secure debt relief and to double aid to Africa to \$100bn – and **climate change**, where U.S. opposition will be difficult to bypass

Population: **59.8 million**  
GDP: **\$2,124.5bn** (2004)  
Per head: **\$29,800** (2003)



## UNITED STATES

### President George W. Bush

Heads to his fifth G8 summit with voter approval ratings at all-time low. Doubtful on many of Blair's aid plans and rejects **Kyoto Protocol** on global warming. Will be pushing to revitalize **Middle East** "road map to peace"

Population: **280 million**  
GDP: **\$11,678.7bn**  
GDP per head: **\$37,600**



## JAPAN

### Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi

As the largest lending nation, favours use of loans as well as aid for developing countries. Concerned with North Korea's nuclear programme, will be hoping for progress on **non-proliferation**

Population: **127.1 million**  
GDP: **\$4,666.4bn**  
GDP per head: **\$28,400**



## GERMANY

### Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder

Cautious on debt write-off, opposes plan to double aid to Africa but powerful Green lobby at home – and difficult elections in September – ensures support for climate change proposals

Population: **82.5 million**  
GDP: **\$2,740.7bn**  
GDP per head: **\$27,100**



## FRANCE

### President Jacques Chirac

Proposes international airline tax to fund increased aid for poor nations, backs micro-finance and non-state mechanisms to alleviate poverty. Will double contribution to global fund to combat **AIDS**

Population: **61.2 million**  
GDP: **\$2,046.7bn**  
GDP per head: **\$27,800**



## RUSSIA

### President Vladimir Putin

Rescued **Kyoto Protocol** from collapse after U.S. withdrawal and backs many of Blair's other proposals. As G8 President in 2006, their continued success will be in Putin's hands

Population: **145 million**  
GDP: **\$587.5bn**  
GDP per head: **\$9,800**



## ITALY

### Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi

Blair ally on all key issues. Along with Germany and France, Italy has backed **International Finance Facility** plan to raise funds by selling bonds on international markets

Population: **57.5 million**  
GDP: **\$1,677.9bn**  
GDP per head: **\$26,600**



## CANADA

### Prime Minister Paul Martin

Will attempt to convince Bush on climate change, but – fearful of endangering domestic economy – has so far refused to set a timetable for increasing foreign aid to 0.7% of budget

Population: **31.5 million**  
GDP: **\$978.5bn**  
GDP per head: **\$30,500**



## EUROPEAN UNION

As the world's largest economy, covering some 456 million people in 25 countries, the EU is represented by the President of the European Council, Tony Blair, and President of the European Commission, its executive arm

Source: OECD, World Bank, Eurostat, CIA World Factbook  
© GRAPHIC NEWS



### Jose Manuel Barroso, President of European Commission:

Suggests voluntary levy of one euro on passenger flights to be spent on international aid. EU countries will increase foreign aid to 0.7% of budget by 2015

GDP: **\$12,694.6bn**  
GDP per head: **\$25,000**