G8 summit to focus on climate change

NGOs want the G8 to agree a global goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2050, with ambitious interim targets of 25-40% by 2020, and help fund clean technology transfer to poorer countries. But divisions among G8 leaders cast doubts over how much they can achieve



Japan Yasuo Fukuda Elected: Sep 2007



Stephen Harper Elected: Jan 2006



Nicolas Sarkozv Elected: May 2007



Angela Merkel Elected: Nov 2005

Fukuda says Japan will reduce CO2 emissions by 60-80% from current level by 2050. Europe wants G8 to commit to goal of cutting emissions by 50% from 1990 levels by 2050, while Canada proposes plan to allow industries to cut percentage of emission increases without cutting emissions overall



Italy Silvio Berlusconi Re-elected: Apr 08



Dmitry Medvedev Elected: Mar 2008





U.S. George W. Bush Flected: Nov 2000



Gordon Brown Flected: Jun 2007

Early signs in Russia under Medvedev suggest departure from Putin's rejection of binding emissions targets, while U.S. continues to block agreement on targets unless emerging economies such as China and India are on board