

WORLD AGENDA

OCTOBER 2011

2 Oct 27, Ireland: **Martin McGuinness**, former *Irish Republican Army* commander and now deputy first minister in Northern Ireland, stands for election as President of the Republic of Ireland. He is a candidate for *Sinn Féin*, the fourth largest party in the country

1 Oct 13, Washington: South Korea's President **Lee Myung-bak** visits the White House for talks with President **Obama** that are expected to include the largest U.S. free trade pact in a generation. The pact, which would slash 95% of tariffs between the two nations, was signed in 2007 but has yet to receive congressional approval

3 Oct 11, Monrovia: **Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf**, Africa's first and only woman head of state, is poised for re-election in Liberia's first domestically organised vote since its civil war ended in 2003. She came to power in UN-organised polls in 2005

4 October, Moscow: The gas war between Russia – owner of major energy reserves – and Ukraine – owner of the largest pipeline network to Western Europe – may intensify as Russia begins pumping gas via the Baltic sea. Its 1,230km **Nord Stream** pipeline cost \$12 billion

5 Oct 15, Haiti: The UN peacekeeping mandate expires amid allegations of excessive use of force by troops. Haitian president **Michel Martelly** is expected to ask for the mission to be renewed but demonstrators demand its withdrawal

6 Oct, Norfolk, England: Water is pumped through a 1km hosepipe into a huge helium balloon as part of an experiment to re-create the cooling effects of volcanoes on the earth's atmosphere.

The Stratospheric Particle Injection for Climate Engineering project runs for three years

7 Oct 30, New Delhi: Formula One's inaugural **Indian Grand Prix** takes place with **Narain Karthikeyan** the homegrown hopeful behind the wheel for the **HRT** team. The event will be the 17th race of the season

8 Oct 8, Wales: **Christina Aguilera** (left), **Cee Lo Green** and **JLS** play at a **Michael Jackson** tribute concert at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium. The **Michael Forever** gig also features **The Jacksons**, brothers of the late King of Pop

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