

# Rise and fall of Silvio Berlusconi

**■ Apr 2008:** Berlusconi wins third term as premier of euro-zone's third-largest economy

**■ Apr 2009:** Berlusconi photographed at 18th birthday party of model **Noemi Letizia** (inset). His wife **Veronica Lario** announces she is divorcing him

**■ Jul:** Faces accusations of cavorting with teenagers and prostitutes

**■ Oct:** Constitutional Court overturns law that grants Berlusconi immunity from prosecution while in office

**■ Dec:** Berlusconi assaulted at Milan rally – two teeth broken

**■ Jan 2010:** Faces alleged tax fraud by his Mediaset business – later acquitted

**■ Apr:** Toxic row with **Gianfranco Fini** – co-founder of ruling **Party of Freedom** – over Berlusconi's morality and dictatorial style of government

**■ Jul:** Hostess **Patrizia D'Addario** claims she slept with Berlusconi after so-called **bunga-bunga** party

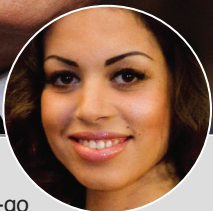
**■ Sep:** Berlusconi wins gamble on all-or-nothing confidence vote in parliament, but needs backing of Fini supporters to survive

2008

2009

2010

2011



**■ Oct 2010:** 17-year-old Moroccan go-go dancer **Ruby** – real name **Karima El Mahroug** – alleges she witnessed sex sessions at Berlusconi's villa

**■ Feb 2011:** Hundreds of thousands of women – incensed by Berlusconi's sex scandals – protest throughout Italy

**■ Apr:** Trial opens in Milan over alleged payments by Berlusconi for sex with a minor

**■ May:** Berlusconi suffers humiliating local election defeat, losing his stronghold of Milan

**■ Sep:** Italy's credit rating downgraded – cost of government borrowing soars

**■ Nov:** At humiliating G20 summit in France, Berlusconi is forced to agree to IMF monitoring of economic reforms

**■ Nov 8:** Agrees to resign once reforms are passed