

A photograph of Mario Monti, an Italian politician, speaking at a podium. He is wearing a dark suit, a light blue shirt, and a blue patterned tie. He has grey hair and glasses, and is gesturing with both hands while speaking. A microphone is visible on the right side of the frame. The background is slightly blurred, showing a patterned wall.

Today in History

November 16, 2011

▲ **Mario Monti was sworn in as Italian prime minister, tasked with implementing austerity measures to cut Italy's 1.9 trillion-euro debt and prevent economic collapse**

1965: The USSR launched Venus III, which in 1966 became the first spacecraft to land on another planet

2001: The movie version of "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" opened on both sides of the Atlantic

2009: Australian premier Kevin Rudd apologised to generations of children raised in orphanages and foster homes

2010: The Beatles finally released their back catalogue after years of legal wrangling over the Apple name