

# WORLD AGENDA

OCTOBER 2013



**3 Oct 13, Addis Ababa:** African leaders call for a mass withdrawal from the *International Criminal Court* in protest at the trial of Kenya's deputy president **William Ruto** (below). The African Union accuses the court of "hunting" the continent's leaders



**4 Oct 25-26, Prague:** Elections in the Czech Parliament could hand a share of power to the *Communist Party* for the first time since the 1989 Velvet Revolution ended its totalitarian rule. The Social Democrats are set to win the most seats

**6 Oct 2, Vatican:** **Pope Francis** receives **Sister Angelique Namaika** (left), winner of the UN's *Nansen Refugee Award*, who has helped over 2,000 women and girls abused and displaced by conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

**8 Oct 20, New York:** The stage version of author **John Grisham's** (right) first novel, *A Time To Kill*, published in 1989, opens on Broadway. Nine of his nearly two dozen novels, which have sold 250m books worldwide, have been made into films

**1 Oct 1, U.S.:** The defining act of **Barack Obama's** presidency, health care reform, comes to fruition when subsidised insurance goes on sale. Seven million Americans are expected to sign up in the first year, rising to 22 million by 2016

**2 Oct 6-12, Kuala Lumpur:** **Barack Obama** tours Asia and becomes the first U.S. president in nearly half a century to visit Malaysia. Relations between the two countries soured when **Mahathir Mohamad**, a strident critic of the west, was prime minister between 1981 and 2003

**5 Oct 18, Luxembourg:** The European Union is expected to agree on business talks with China, paving the way for a possible free-trade deal between two of the world's biggest markets. Trade between the markets rose to \$435bn last year

**7 Oct 10, Parma:** Concerts and performances take place in Italy and around the world to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of **Giuseppe Verdi** (left), one of the most influential opera composers of the nineteenth century

