

# WORLD AGENDA 2015



## January

**1** The new Republican-dominated Congress is sworn in, signalling a rocky road for Democrat president **Barack Obama's** final two years in office

**2** Lithuania joins the euro and Latvia assumes the six-month presidency of the EU, amid heightened tension between Russia and the West



## February

**3** **Goodluck Jonathan** is favourite to win presidential elections in Nigeria despite questions over his constitutional eligibility to stand again

**4** The **Cricket World Cup** is hosted by Australia and New Zealand, with 14 teams competing over six weeks



## March

**5** Israeli Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** is seeking a fourth term in snap elections seen as a referendum on his leadership

**6** **King Richard III** of England, whose remains were discovered under a municipal car park in 2012, is to be reburied in Leicester Cathedral



## April

**7** Panama hosts the seventh **Summit of the Americas**, a gathering of leaders from across the region

## May

**8** A general election in Britain, with anti-immigration **UKIP** (UK Independence Party) expected to split right-wing votes, is likely to lead to continued coalition government



## June

**9** German Chancellor **Angela Merkel** hosts leaders of the world's richest countries at **Schloss Elmau**, in the Bavarian Alps, at the G7 summit

**10** A general election in Turkey is seen as a referendum on president **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**. Victory would give him a licence to strengthen his grip on Turkish politics

## July

**11** After nine years and 4.8 billion km, NASA's **New Horizons** becomes the first spacecraft to visit the icy dwarf planet Pluto



## August

**12** Beijing's **Bird's Nest** stadium stages the 15th World Athletics Championships, as the **IAAF** selects a new president. Britain's double Olympic champion **Sebastian Coe** is seen as a likely candidate



## September

**13** **Pope Francis** visits the U.S. for the first time since becoming pontiff

**14** England hosts the eighth **Rugby World Cup**

**15** **Queen Elizabeth II** becomes Britain's longest-reigning monarch



## October

**16** Canada votes in a general election

**17** **Spectre**, the 24th in the series of **James Bond** films, is released, with **Daniel Craig** playing **007** for the fourth time

**18** Argentina could see the end of the **Kirchner** era as **Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner** is barred from running for a third term as president



## November

**19** Myanmar's steps towards democracy will be called into question in a parliamentary election if opposition leader **Aung San Suu Kyi** is barred from standing



## December

**20** Signs of a turnaround in Spain's economic fortunes could pay dividends for Prime Minister **Mariano Rajoy** in general elections

**21** **Star Wars: The Force Awakens**, the first in a new trilogy in the film series, is released

