

# 2015: World riven by conflict and crisis



January: Charlie Hebdo attacks



April: Nepal earthquake



May: UK election



June: Greece financial crisis



July: U.S.-Cuba thaw



July: Iran nuclear deal



November: Paris attacks



November: Turkey-Russia row



August: Migrant crisis



November: Myanmar election



December: Syria airstrikes

**JAN 7** Islamist attacks in Paris on the satirical newspaper **Charlie Hebdo** and a Jewish supermarket kill 17  
**24** The anti-austerity Syriza party wins power in Greece, and heads for a showdown with the EU over its massive bailout

**FEB 5** Jordan launches airstrikes against **Islamic State (Daesh)** in Iraq and Syria following the brutal murder of a Jordanian pilot

**7 Paul Gauguin's** oil painting *When Will You Marry?* sells for \$300m, the highest ever price for any painting

**MAR 8** Daesh extremists demolish cultural heritage sites in Iraq, including Nineveh and Nimrud

**9** Apple finally unveils its hotly anticipated smartwatch

**24** The co-pilot of a Germanwings plane deliberately crashes into the French Alps, killing all 150 on board

**25** Saudi Arabia launches airstrikes in Yemen against Iranian-backed Houthi militants

**APR 2** Al-Shabab gunmen storm a university in Garissa, Kenya, killing 148 people, mostly students



**12** U.S. golfer **Jordan Spieth**, 21, wins the U.S. Masters, and follows up with the U.S. Open  
**19** Over 800 migrants die when their ship sinks in the Mediterranean off Libya's coast  
**25** A major earthquake kills over 8,000 people in Nepal and destroys many historic landmarks

**MAY 2 Princess Charlotte**, second child of Britain's **Prince William** and his wife **Kate**, is born

**7** The Conservatives, led by **David Cameron**, win a surprise election victory in the UK

**22** Ireland becomes the first country to legalise same-sex marriage in a popular vote

**JUN 2 Sepp Blatter** announces his resignation as FIFA president in the wake of corruption investigations

**12** China's stock market bubble crashes, sending share values plunging

**13** The **Philae** lander from the **Rosetta** mission reawakens, seven months after landing on comet 67P/CG

**26** A gunman kills 38 tourists at a beach resort in Tunisia, the deadliest terror attack in the country's modern history

**29** Greece closes all its banks for six days as its financial crisis deepens

**JUL 3** The solar-powered aircraft **Solar Impulse** completes the longest leg of its round-the-world journey, from Japan to Hawaii

**14** Iran agrees a historic nuclear deal to limit its ability to produce a nuclear weapon in exchange for the lifting of crippling economic sanctions

**20** The United States and Cuba restore full diplomatic relations after 54 years

**29** Aircraft debris washed up on Reunion proves to be from missing Malaysian Airlines flight MH370, which vanished in March 2014

**AUG 6** Egypt inaugurates a new channel of the Suez Canal, doubling capacity

**19** Europe's migration crisis intensifies, with up to 3,000 migrants arriving daily



**30** Daesh militants blow up two ancient temples and the Arch of Triumph in Palmyra



**SEP 9 Queen Elizabeth II** becomes Britain's longest reigning monarch

**18** Volkswagen admits widespread rigging of test results for diesel emissions

**24** Over 2,000 pilgrims die in the worst ever crush at the Hajj

**30** Russia launches airstrikes in Syria in support of President **Bashar al-Assad**

**OCT 25 Justin Trudeau** pulls off an upset in Canada's federal election, ending nine years of Conservative rule



**29** China ends its controversial one-child policy after 35 years

**31** A bomb destroys a Russian airliner over Sinai, killing all 224 people on board

**NOV 8 Aung San Suu Kyi's** National League for Democracy wins a landslide election victory in Myanmar to end decades of military rule

**13** Russia is suspended from all international athletics for alleged involvement in widespread doping

**13** At least 130 people are killed in coordinated terrorist attacks in Paris. The suspected mastermind is later killed in a police raid in Saint-Denis

**24** Turkey shoots down a Russian warplane near the border with Syria, sparking a major diplomatic row

**25 Pope Francis** makes a six-day trip to Africa, including the first visit by any pope to an active conflict zone

**DEC 1 Mark Zuckerberg**, CEO of Facebook, says he will donate 99 percent of his shares, worth \$45 billion, to charity

**3** British bombers join U.S. and French airstrikes on Daesh targets in Syria

**3** Olympic athlete **Oscar Pistorius** is convicted of murder on appeal, overturning a lesser conviction over the shooting death of his girlfriend in 2013



**7** Republican presidential front-runner **Donald Trump** is widely criticised after calling for a ban on Muslims entering the U.S.