



# Today in History

*August 19, 1991*

▲ **Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev was overthrown in a coup by Communist hardliners. The coup failed but soon led to the collapse of the Soviet Union**

**1979:** Former Cambodian dictator Pol Pot was sentenced to death in absentia

**1989:** Poland became the first country in eastern Europe to end one-party rule

**2004:** Internet search engine Google was floated on the New York Stock Exchange. The offer price of \$85 shot up 18% on the first day of trading

**2015:** Europe's migration crisis intensified, with up to 3,000 migrants arriving daily