

WORLD AGENDA

December 2016

1 Dec 8-9, Belgium: NATO foreign ministers meet in Brussels to polish the plan to project stability beyond the Alliance's borders. Their newest headache might be **Donald Trump**: the U.S. president-elect has repeatedly questioned the relevance of NATO

2 Dec 4, Italy: Prime Minister **Matteo Renzi** plans a referendum on constitutional changes that he argues will make the country more governable. Opposition parties and dissidents in his own party say they will reduce democratic checks and balances

4 December, South Korea: A special prosecutor is expected to investigate a corruption scandal that has rocked the administration of South Korean President **Park Geun-hye** and could lead to her impeachment

7 Dec 31, U.S.: Contenders in Google's \$30m **Lunar XPrize** competition must line up a 2017 Moon mission by the end of 2016 to stay in the race. Three teams, **Moon Express** in the U.S., **SpaceIL** from Israel and international team **Synergy Moon**, have so far met the deadline

5 Dec 12, Israel: The first U.S. **F-35** stealth fighter jets arrive. Israel, the only country allowed to customize the software and weapons of the F-35s, is the first U.S. ally to receive the advanced aircraft

8 Dec 7, U.S.: Japanese warplanes bombed the **Pearl Harbor** Naval base 75 years ago, killing 2,400 Americans and drawing the U.S. into World War II. Survivors of the attack will be among those attending ceremonies in Hawaii

6 Dec 15, Japan: Russian President **Vladimir Putin** visits Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe** amid reports of a possible resolution of the dispute over the Kurile Islands, which has prevented the two countries from signing a World War II peace treaty

