

JANUARY

- 1 **Donald Trump** marks the first anniversary of his inauguration as President of the United States
- 2 **Bulgaria** assumes the rotating presidency of the **European Union**, as new EU rules aimed at increasing transparency in financial markets come into force
- 3 World leaders gather in Davos in the Swiss Alps for the annual **World Economic Forum**

FEBRUARY

- 4 PyeongChang hosts the **Winter Olympic Games** amid tension over the impact of the IOC's ban on Russia's participation
- 5 China marks the **Year of the Dog**. Famous dog people include **Lenin** and **Mother Teresa**
- 6 Cuba begins a new era as **Raúl Castro**, 86-year-old younger brother of Fidel, steps down

MARCH

- 7 The publication 200 years ago of **Mary Shelley's** novel **Frankenstein** gave the world an intriguing monster and added to the philosophical debate on creation
- 8 Italy's general election will be fought under a new system that favours broad alliances

- 9 Russia's president **Vladimir Putin** could win a second six-year term. He has been in power as either president or prime minister since 1999

APRIL

- 10 Britain's **Royal Air Force**, the world's oldest independent air force, celebrates its centenary
- 11 **Dr Martin Luther King Jr.** is remembered on the 50th anniversary of his assassination

- 12 World Health Day 2018 falls on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the **World Health Organization**

WORLD AGENDA 2018



MAY

- 13 NASA launches its **InSight** lander to Mars, where it will study the planet's deep interior
- 14 Britain's **Prince Harry** marries American actress **Meghan Markle** at Windsor Castle



- 15 Workers around the world commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of **Karl Marx**

JUNE

- 16 Canada hosts the **G7** summit in Quebec
- 17 The **Berlin Airlift** was launched 70 years ago
- 18 The **FIFA World Cup** brings global football stars to Russian cities

JULY

- 19 The iconic **Volkswagen Beetle**, born out of a desire by Nazi Germany's leader **Adolf Hitler** to produce a cheap "people's car", was launched 80 years ago
- 20 Mexicans elect a new president and parliament
- 21 Argentina becomes the first South American country to chair the **G20** group of major economies

AUGUST

- 22 The **World Meeting of Families** brings **Pope Francis** and Catholics from around the world to Ireland's capital Dublin
- 23 A partial solar eclipse, the last of three in 2018, will be visible from many populous areas from northern Europe to Asia
- 24 Two Indonesian cities, Jakarta and Palembang, host the **2018 Asian Games**

SEPTEMBER

- 25 North Korea's 70th anniversary invites a new show of defiance to the international community from leader **Kim Jong Un**
- 26 Europe's golfers hope to avenge their defeat in 2016 by beating the U.S. in the biennial **Ryder Cup**, to be held in France
- 27 It is 10 years since **Lehman Brothers** filed for bankruptcy, setting off a global financial crisis

OCTOBER

- 28 The annual meeting of the **World Bank** and **IMF** takes place in Bali, Indonesia
- 29 Voters in Brazil, Latin America's largest economy, choose a new president
- 30 **BepiColombo**, a European-Japanese mission to Mercury, is set to launch

NOVEMBER

- 31 The U.S. midterm elections will be seen as a referendum on Donald Trump's controversial presidency
- 32 Commemorations will mark the centenary of the armistice that ended the First World War
- 33 Papua New Guinea hosts the **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation** summit

DECEMBER

- 34 Congo is scheduled to hold presidential and legislative elections
- 35 Trains start running on London's **Crossrail**, Europe's most ambitious engineering project
- 36 **Mary Poppins Returns**, the sequel to the classic 1964 film, opens, starring **Emily Blunt** as the magical nanny