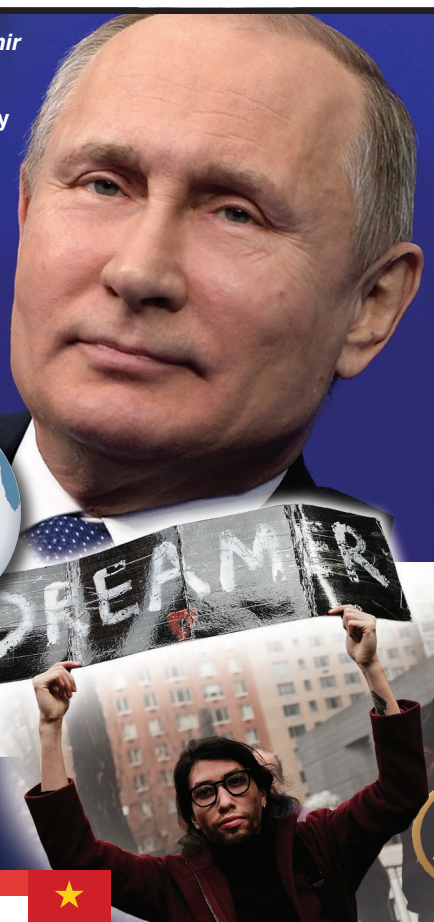


# WORLD AGENDA

MARCH 2018

**1** Mar 18, Russia: President **Vladimir Putin**, who has dominated Russia's political landscape for the last 17 years, is on course to be comfortably re-elected for another six year term. With opposition leader **Alexei Navalny** barred from the race, Putin faces seven other candidates, the most since his first election in 2000



**2** Mar 4, Italy: An election pits a centre-right coalition against populists and a divided left, with polls suggesting a hung parliament and uncertainty in the eurozone's third-largest economy

**3** Mar 8, Chile: Eleven nations sign a revised **Trans-Pacific Partnership**, creating a market of 500 million people with a combined GDP of \$10 trillion. The original pact was never implemented after **Donald Trump** pulled the U.S. out of the deal



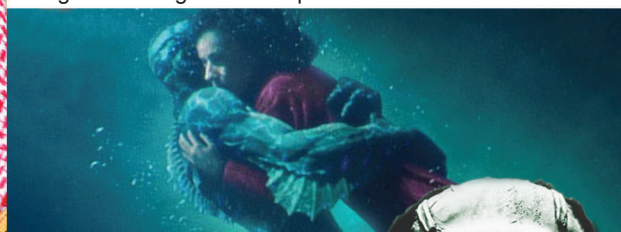
**4** Mar 7-9, Saudi Arabia: Crown Prince **Mohammed bin Salman** ventures abroad seeking foreign support and investment for his efforts to transform the oil-dependent kingdom into a market-based economy. He will visit the UK, France and the U.S.



**6** Mar 26-28, Egypt: **Abdel Fattah el-Sisi** appears guaranteed to win a second term as president. Leading opposition figures want a boycott, saying the election has been compromised by intimidation of opponents



**5** Mar 5, U.S.: Time runs out for the "Dreamers", some 700,000 immigrants brought in illegally as children and allowed to remain under the **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)** programme – unless Congress can agree on a replacement scheme



**7** Mar 4, U.S.: The 90th **Academy Awards** ceremony honours the best films of 2017. **The Shape of Water** (pictured above) leads the field with 13 nominations

**8** Mar 11, UK: **Mary Shelley's** novel, **Frankenstein**; or **The Modern Prometheus**, was published 200 years ago

