



Today in History

December 11, 2001

▲ **China was finally admitted to the World Trade Organisation over 15 years after its first application, opening up its market of almost 1.3 billion consumers**

1989: Hong Kong began forcibly repatriating Vietnamese boat people

1997: The Kyoto Protocol to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases was finally agreed in Japan

2003: France recommended a ban on wearing religious symbols in schools, like Muslim headscarves, Jewish skullcaps and large Christian crosses

2008: U.S. businessman Bernard Madoff was charged with fraud for running a vast Ponzi scheme