



WORLD AGENDA

CDU

DECEMBER 2018

1 Dec 1, Mexico: **Andrés Manuel López Obrador** begins a 6-year term in office as the country's 58th president. He vows to scorn the expensive trappings of the job as he bids to boost the struggling economy, and to create a national guard to tackle the scourge of spiralling crime

2 Dec 7, Germany: **Jens Spahn, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbaue** and **Friedrich Merz** are seen as the front-runners to replace **Angela Merkel** as leader of the Christian Democrats. After dismal election showings in Bavaria and Hesse, Chancellor Merkel announced that she would not stand again for the CDU party leadership

3 Dec 23, D.R. Congo: The vast resource-rich nation goes to the polls. After President **Joseph Kabila** accepted he could not run for a third term, his choice of former interior minister and Kabila loyalist **Emmanuel Ramazani Shadary** (above) in his stead signalled that little will change in the conflict-torn country

6 Dec 3, Kazakhstan: The **Soyuz** launch to the **ISS** promises to be fraught, as the last attempt failed. Apart from the risk to the crew, a second failure could ground Soyuz and put the orbiting laboratory beyond reach

7 Dec 10-11, U.S.: A test section of **Elon Musk's** envisioned hyper-fast loop system under Los Angeles opens to the public. Passengers will be whisked on an electric-powered platform at 240km/h along three kilometres of tunnel

8 Dec 19, U.S.: More than 50 years after the original **Mary Poppins** descended via umbrella, Disney's musical reboot promises to put a skip in your step. **Emily Blunt** steps into the formidable shoes of **Julie Andrews** as the magical nanny



4 Dec 13-14, European Union: EU leaders meet to deal with the outcome of November's special summit to finalize the draft Brexit agreement struck by the bloc with Britain

5 Dec 31, France: The U.S. and Israel depart from **UNESCO** in protest, accusing the agency of bias against Israel. Washington wins financially from leaving but loses its voice on the important World Heritage Committee

