

Stories that made headlines around the world in 2019



Jan: Brazil dam collapse



Mar: Mozambique cyclone



Mar: NZ massacre

Jul: PM Boris



Apr: Sri Lanka bombings



Apr: Notre-Dame blaze



Jun: Hong Kong protests



Aug: Kashmir status



Sep: Trump Ukraine storm



Aug: Amazon wildfires



Oct: Catalan leaders jailed



Nov: Kartarpur Corridor

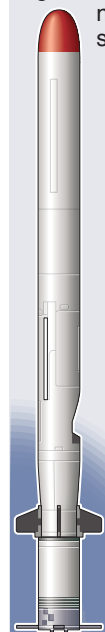


Oct: Turkish Syria incursion

JAN 1 NASA's *New Horizons* probe makes a successful flyby of Ultima Thule, in the Kuiper belt, the most distant object yet visited by a spacecraft

25 A dam collapse at an iron ore mine in Brumadinho, Brazil, triggers a mudslide that leaves more than 270 people dead

FEB 1 The U.S. suspends the *Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty*, signed in 1987, citing Russian non-compliance. Russia says it will also withdraw



12 Mexican drug lord **Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán** is found guilty of 10 criminal charges in the U.S., and is later jailed for life



12 The **Republic of North Macedonia** formally comes into being, ending a 27-year naming dispute with Greece

MAR 13 Boeing grounds its entire **737 MAX** passenger fleet after a software fault causes two deadly crashes within five months

21 Multiple bombings at churches and hotels in Sri Lanka kill more than 250 people

21 Comic actor **Volodymyr Zelensky** is a surprise winner of Ukraine's presidential election

15 A gunman kills 51 people at two mosques in Christchurch, the deadliest attack in New Zealand's history

15 **Cyclone Idai** devastates Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi, impacting over 2.6m people. Mozambique's port city of Beira is 90% destroyed

23 U.S. Special Counsel **Robert Mueller's** 22-month probe into Russia's role in the 2016 election concludes it did not find any evidence that then-candidate **Donald Trump** broke the law

APR 11 WikiLeaks founder **Julian Assange** is arrested and removed from the Ecuador embassy in London where he took refuge in 2012

11 **President Omar al-Bashir** of Sudan is deposed in a coup after nearly 30 years in office

15 A major fire engulfs the **Cathedral of Notre-Dame** in Paris. The spire and roof collapse but the bell towers and valuable treasures are saved

MAY 1 **Emperor Naruhito** of Japan accedes to the Chrysanthemum Throne after the abdication of his father, **Akihito**



6 **Prince Harry** and **Meghan Markle** welcome their first child, **Archie Harrison Mountbatten-Windsor**, but their relationship with the British press sours over the year

JUN 9 Mass protests begin in Hong Kong over plans to allow extradition to mainland China. The bill is later withdrawn but increasingly violent demonstrations continue throughout the year

JUL 17 The Ebola outbreak worsens in D.R. Congo, with deaths soon topping 2,000

19 Tensions between Iran and the West increase over the summer with a number of seizures and attacks aimed at oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz

24 **Boris Johnson** becomes UK prime minister, after **Theresa May's** failure to deliver Brexit forces her resignation

25 Germany and France record temperatures of 42.6C as European heat records tumble

AUG 5 India's government revokes disputed Kashmir's special status and deploys thousands of troops to the Muslim-majority region

10 U.S. financier **Jeffrey Epstein** is found dead in his jail cell while awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges

20 Multiple wildfires in the Amazon rainforest destroy vast tracts of land and darken skies over major cities across Brazil

SEP 1 **Hurricane Dorian** slams the Bahamas, causing damage estimated at \$3.4 billion, over 25% of GDP

23 Swedish activist **Greta Thunberg**, 16, attends the UN climate summit in New York after crossing the Atlantic in a zero-carbon racing yacht. She refuses to fly because of toxic aviation emissions



24 The U.S. House of Representatives launches impeachment proceedings against **President Donald Trump**, accusing him of abusing his power by pressuring Ukraine to announce an investigation into his Democratic rival **Joe Biden**



25 **Beijing Daxing International Airport**, the world's biggest single-building airport terminal, opens in China

OCT 9 Turkey invades northeast Syria following President Trump's decision to pull U.S. troops out of the region

14 Spain's Supreme Court jails nine Catalan separatist leaders, prompting major protests in Barcelona and beyond

18 Mass protests spread through Chile over rising living costs and growing inequality

27 **Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi**, fugitive leader of Islamic State, kills himself after U.S. forces track him down in Syria

NOV 9 The **Kartarpur Corridor** allows Indian Sikhs visa-free access to a holy site just inside Pakistan for the first time since 1947

10 Bolivia's **President Evo Morales** is forced to resign amid accusations of electoral fraud



21 Firefighters battle 200 fires across Australia, with New South Wales particularly hard hit

DEC 1 **Ursula von der Leyen** of Germany takes office as the first female President of the European Commission



12 UK voters head to the polls in an election dominated by the **Brexit** impasse