

# Ardern's key leadership moments

Jacinda Ardern's first term in office has been challenging but her leadership style under crisis – both decisive and compassionate – has seen her become one of the world's most prominent leaders

**■ Oct 26, 2017:** *Jacinda Ardern*, aged 37, sworn in as New Zealand's 40th prime minister, becoming world's youngest female head of government

**■ Jun 21, 2018:** Second elected head of government to give birth while in office, after Pakistan's *Benazir Bhutto* in 1990



Ardern takes six months maternity leave to look after baby daughter *Neve Te Aroha*



**■ Mar 15, 2019:** Fifty people killed when far-right gunman attacks worshippers at two mosques in Christchurch in worst mass shooting in New Zealand's modern history

Ardern's swift and compassionate response – wearing hijab as she meets Muslim community on day after attack – is praised for unifying country

**■ Dec 9:** Volcano erupts on White Island, killing 21 people

Ardern actively oversees rescue and recovery efforts, supporting emergency responders

**■ Mar 2020:** Coronavirus pandemic strikes – Ardern closes borders, imposes nationwide lockdown and expands testing and contact tracing

"Go hard, go early" approach gains wide admiration – viewed as antithesis of attitude of U.S. president *Donald Trump*

