

WORLD AGENDA

MARCH 2021

1 Mar 11, World: The WHO declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic one year ago. As predicted, it spread around the globe, killing millions of people. The logistics of vaccine distribution leave no chance that Covid-19 will be history by the anniversary

2 Mar 14, U.S.: Unemployment benefits run out for millions of workers unless Congress passes some version of President **Joe Biden's** economic stimulus budget. Some 16 million people are affected

3 Mar 17, Netherlands: Dutch voters go to the polls. Despite a scandal over child welfare payments that led the government to resign in January, Prime Minister **Mark Rutte's** centre-right **VVD** party maintains strong support

5 Mar 8, U.S.: Former police officer **Derek Chauvin** goes on trial over the death of **George Floyd** in Minneapolis in May 2020. Floyd's death added fuel to the **Black Lives Matter** movement and led to weeks of street protests

7 Mar 30, France: The **European Space Agency** is seeking new astronauts for the first time in 11 years. The ESA wants to bring more women into its astronaut corps, and it is encouraging disabled candidates to apply for its **Parastronaut Feasibility Project**

8 Mar 28, Bahrain: **Lewis Hamilton** kicks off the defence of his **Formula 1** world title. The 23-race season has seen changes because of the pandemic, but expects to avoid the severe disruption of last year

4 Mar 23, Israel: An unprecedented fourth Knesset election in two years was automatically triggered after Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu's** Likud Party and **Benny Gantz's** Blue and White Party failed to agree to the 2020-21 budget

6 Mar 6-15, New Zealand: **Emirates Team New Zealand** faces Italy's **Luna Rossa** team for the 36th **America's Cup**

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