

WORLD AGENDA

DECEMBER 2021

1 Dec 6-9, Germany: Social Democrat **Olaf Scholz** is expected to be sworn in as chancellor, leading a new governing coalition that aims to modernise Europe's largest economy and bring the curtain down on **Angela Merkel's** era

2 Dec, U.S.: President **Joe Biden's** \$1.75 trillion bill to expand the social safety net heads to the Senate, where Democrats aim to rally wavering moderates to pass the bill by year end despite Republican opposition



3 Dec 24, Libya: The war-torn country plans to hold a presidential election, but disputes over who is eligible to stand are threatening to derail the process which comes after a decade of factional chaos



5 Dec 19, Chile: Far-right politician **José Antonio Kast** (right) and leftist congressman **Gabriel Boric** (left) face off in a presidential runoff. It follows an unusually turbulent period in what was formerly one of South America's most stable and prosperous democracies

7 Dec 22, French Guiana: NASA's **James Webb Space Telescope**, which will allow astronomers to peer into the farthest reaches of the universe, is due to lift off from the Kourou spaceport

8 Dec 4, Russia: **GES-2**, a former power plant converted into a modern art museum by architect **Renzo Piano**, opens in Moscow. It could become as important on the art circuit as **Tate Modern** in London or the **Centre Pompidou** in Paris

4 Dec 6, India: Prime minister **Narendra Modi** welcomes Russian President **Vladimir Putin**, with defence and trade pacts expected to be signed at a summit that coincides with the delivery of the first batch of Russian **S-400** air defence systems to India

6 Dec 2, UAE: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain and Fujairah united to found the Gulf state 50 years ago. Ras al Khaimah joined in 1972

