

**1 August, Europe:** After record-smashing summer heatwaves that sparked devastating wildfires around the Mediterranean, the region is bracing for more extreme weather over the peak holiday season

# WORLD AGENDA

## AUGUST 2023



**4 Aug 23, U.S.:** Republican presidential candidates face off for the party's first 2024 election primary debate but front-runner **Donald Trump** may not show up, and others have yet to meet the attendance criteria

**5 Aug 11, Russia:** **Luna 25**, Russia's first lunar expedition in almost 50 years, blasts off to explore the moon's south polar region, thought to be rich in water ice

**6 Aug, South Korea:** The government will downgrade its **Covid-19** health risk, lifting all remaining mask mandates including in hospitals, and lower Covid's infectious disease rating to that similar to influenza



**2 Aug, Denmark:** A coalition of 11 nations will start training Ukrainian pilots to fly F-16 fighter jets. NATO members Denmark and the Netherlands are leading international efforts to supply F-16s to Ukraine in its war with Russia

**3 Aug 22-24, South Africa:** The **BRICS** summit in Johannesburg will see President **Vladimir Putin**, sought by the **International Criminal Court** over accusations that Russia deported Ukrainian children, attending via video conference for fear of being detained



**7 Aug 23, Zimbabwe:** A deep economic crisis is the key issue in an election that pits incumbent **President Emmerson Mnangagwa**, 80, against the main opposition leader **Nelson Chamisa**, 45

**8 Aug 3-13, UK:** Scotland hosts the inaugural **UCI Cycling World Championships**, a mega event that sees all 13 Championship events – Road, Track, Freestyle, Mountain Bike and Para-Cycling – contested over 11 days

