

WORLD AGENDA

JANUARY 2026



1 Jan 20, U.S.: **Donald Trump** marks one year into his second term as president, having reshaped policy at home and abroad largely through executive orders, bypassing congressional oversight

2 Jan 23, Switzerland: U.S. membership of the **World Health Organisation** ends, putting programmes across the agency – such as those tackling tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and other health emergencies – at risk

3 Jan 28, UK: **Sarah Mullally** becomes the first female Archbishop of Canterbury, taking on the role of spiritual leader for around 85 million Anglicans worldwide

4 Jan 1, Bulgaria: It adopts the **euro** and becomes the 21st member state of the eurozone amid political instability

7 Jan 17, Worldwide: The **High Seas Treaty**, a global accord to protect vast expanses of the world's oceans and reverse damage to marine life becomes international law

8 Jan 21, Japan: Twin pandas at a Tokyo zoo return to China, leaving Japan without the iconic bears for the first time in 50 years – a highly symbolic move amid recently strained China-Japan relations

5 Jan 15, Uganda: Octogenarian President **Yoweri Museveni** stands in the general election to seek to extend his rule to nearly half a century

6 Jan 12, Netherlands: The **International Court of Justice** hears a landmark case accusing Myanmar of genocide against the Rohingya, a ruling that could set precedents affecting South Africa's case against Israel over the war in Gaza

