

CHRONOLOGY

January – June 2019

January 9

Malta agreed to take 49 stranded migrants.

January 14

Over 3000 Greek primary school teachers took to streets against public sector hiring reforms.

January 15

Catalan police arrested over 17 people in anti-terrorist raids in Barcelona and its suburbs.

January 17

A Belgian city-councilor was arrested on suspicion of selling humanitarian visas.

January 18

Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven reelected for a second term.

January 20

Greeks came out in thousands to protest Macedonia name deal.

January 21

Irish European affairs Minister Helen Louise McEntee said that the Good Friday Agreement was non-negotiable.

January 28

Denmark began building a 70-km long fence along the German border to protect its pigs from disease-carrying wild boars.

February 4

Pope Francis paid a historic visit to the United Arab Emirates.

February 6

The President of the European Council Donald Tusk said there was a 'special place in hell for those who promoted Brexit without a plan'.

February 7

An Austrian court ordered the state to pay €1.5 million for Hitler's house.

In an unprecedented move, France recalled its ambassador from Rome after Italian deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio met French 'gilets jaunes' (yellow vests) protestors.

February 10

Sardinian farmers destroyed their milk reserves to protest market deflation.

February 12

Austrian Federal Ministry of Interior banned symbols related to the pro-Nazi Ustasha regime, which ruled Croatia between 1941-1945.

February 17

Sofia witnessed a far-right march in honour of a Bulgarian General (HristoLukov) who was sympathetic to the Nazis. The World Jewish Congress termed the event 'absolutely abhorrent'.

February 24

A parliamentary election in Moldova resulted in a hung parliament with mandate divided between pro-Western and pro-Russian forces.

March 2

Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borissov assured NATO that his country was not Russia's trojan horse in the alliance.

March 3

Estonia's centre-right Reform party won the general election with 28.8% of the vote.

March 12

A majority of British lawmakers voted against Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit deal.

March 18

Three people killed in a shooting incident in Utrecht.

March 27

A Lithuanian court sentenced an ex-Soviet defense chief (Dmitry Yazov) of war crimes for his role in the 1991 violent crackdown of the independence movement.

April 3

Romania's western partners voiced their concerns over Bucharest's attempts at influencing judicial independence.

April 9

Caio Giulio Cesare Mussolini, the great-grandson of Italian fascist dictator Benito Mussolini, announced to run in the EU elections from a far-right platform.

April 10

In Albania, a gang of robbers stormed Tirana International Airport and snatched bags of cash as they were about to be loaded. The police eventually chased them down and, in the process, killed one robber.

April 11

The European Union agreed to extend Brexit deadline until October.

April 14

Finnish Social Democrats won a thin majority against far-right rivals the Finns Party in the parliamentary election.

April 15

Intense fire engulfed the historic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

April 21

Protesters clashed with the Georgian police in the sensitive Pankisi gorge region over the construction of a hydropower plant.

Ukrainian comedian Volodymyr Zelensky won the presidential election in a landslide victory. He defeated the incumbent Petro Poroshenko.

May 5

A Russian passenger aircraft crashed landed at Moscow's Sheremetyevo International Airport resulting in the death of 41 passengers.

May 14

Two French soldiers killed in a rescue operation in northern Burkina Faso.

May 24

British Prime Minister Theresa May announced that she would step down as party leader on June 7. However, she would remain as Prime Minister until her party elected a new leader.

May 27

Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz lost a motion of no-confidence resulting in his dismissal.

May 28

Kosovan authorities conducted raids in the northern region mainly populated by Serbs. Belgrade retaliated by alerting its forces for any eventuality.

May 30

Israeli lawmakers voted to dissolve the Knesset after incumbent Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to stitch a coalition. The new election is due in September.

May 31

Pope Francis arrived in Romania for a three-day visit. Romania adheres to the Eastern Orthodox branch of Christianity.

June 1

A Spanish professional footballer, Jose Antonio Reyes, died in a fatal car accident. He was 35.

June 2

Sammarinese citizens voted overwhelmingly to end discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.

June 5

The Danish Social Democrats and its allied parties emerged victorious in the parliamentary elections.

June 7

British Prime Minister resigned as Conservative Party leader.

June 13

Amidst tensions with neighbouring Dagestan and Ingushetia, Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov threatened to 'break fingers and tea out tongues' of those who insulted his people.

June 20

In Tbilisi, after a lawmaker from Russia occupied the seat reserved for the speaker in the Georgian parliament to address the interparliamentary session on Orthodoxy, hundreds took to the streets marched towards the legislative building.

June 23

The Opposition alliance candidate Ekrem Imamoglu defeated Erdogan loyalist Binali Yildirim in a re-run for Istanbul mayoral seat.

June 25

Former Armenian President Robert Kocharian returned to custody after the Court of Appeal ordered his re-arrest. He had been charged with overthrowing the constitutional order in 2008.

June 26

Moldovan Constitutional Court resigned en masse.

June 27

German authorities arrested a Bosnian man in the eastern city of Dresden in connected with the 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris.

June 28

To mark the 75th anniversary of liberation from Nazi occupation, the Belarusian lawmakers approved mass amnesty bill granting reprieve to around 6000 people convicted or under investigation. According to the Interior Minister, the bill covered minor suspects, pregnant women, handicaps, terminally ill, military veterans, and individuals involved in the Chernobyl clean-up operations. The bill, however, did not include those convicted for corruption or crimes involving illegal drugs.