

CHRONOLOGY

July - December 2019

1 July

Cyprus began investigations over a likely missile crash near its capital Nicosia.

6 July

Former British top spy Sir John Sawers said that Britain was having a political nervous breakdown amidst divorce

7 July

Greek legislative elections saw Leader of the Opposition Kyriakos Mitsotakis of the *New Democracy* defeating the incumbent Alexis Tsipras.

9 July

An Italian court sentenced 24 people for life for being associated with the 'Operation Condor', an offensive undertaken by the Latin American governments against dissidents.

13 July

French President Emmanuel Macron announced the creation of a new space force command.

16 July

The European Parliament elected Ursula von der Leyen as the new President of the European Commission.

20 July

German Chancellor Angela Merkel paid tribute to Colonel Claus Von Stauffenberg who 75 years ago led a group of officers who tried to assassinate Adolf Hitler.

24 July

Boris Johnson became Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. He defeated Jeremy Hunt in a Conservative leadership race.

3 August

The European Union told Libya's fighting factions to establish truce.

5 August

During his visit to the mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand which was the site of a terrorist attack earlier this year, NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg said that lone attackers inspired each other, and that nations must work together to stop such attacks.

16 August

Denmark hit back at President Trump over his remarks about Greenland. Copenhagen said the island was not for sale.

19 August

Turkey dismissed three Kurdish Mayors of major southeastern cities namely, Diyarbakir, Mardin, and Van. Over 400 people were also detained.

24 August

Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif said that the US stance on the nuclear pact was a threat to Europe.

30 August

The European Union asked Serbia to cancel its trade deal with Russian if it wanted to join the bloc.

10 September

President Trump sacked his National Security Advisor John Bolton

12 September

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denied that Israel planted spy devices near White House.

Outgoing President of the European Commission branded Britons as 'part time Europeans'.

15 September

British Liberal Democrats vowed to annul Brexit if given a mandate in a general election.

17 September

Failing to secure a majority, acting Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez announced that the country was heading towards a parliamentary election which would take place in November.

26 September

Former French president Jacques Chirac passed away. He was 86.

29 September

Austrian People's Party retained its majority in a snap election called after the ruling coalition collapsed in May amid a scandal.

6 October

The Socialist Party (PS) emerged as the largest party in the Portuguese legislative election.

9 October

Turkish forces crossed the Syrian border in the north-eastern sector to push Kurdish militias away from the Turkish frontier.

13 October

The incumbent Law and Justice party retained its majority (Sejm) in the Polish parliamentary elections. However, it lost its majority in the Senate.

14 October

The Spanish Supreme Court handed lengthy prison sentences to leaders of Catalan independence movement.

19 October

A massive protest march through London demanded a second referendum on Brexit.

23 October

39 bodies were found in a truck container in Essex, England.

26 October

Catholic bishops from Amazon known as the Amazon Synod proposed that priesthood be opened for married men.

27 October

US President Donald Trump announced that ISIS leader Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi was killed in a US Special Forces operation in Idlib.

29 October

The European Union decided to extend the Brexit deadline until 31 January 2020. Also, the British House of Commons passed an act to pave the way for a General election on 12 December 2019.

31 October

The Council of Europe criticized Greece for the miserable conditions migrants and asylum seekers were facing in Greek camps.

4 November

Ludovic Orban became the 68th Prime Minister of Romania.

Turkish officials said that they had captured the sister of the slain ISIS leader Abu Bakr al Baghdadi.

9 November

Georgian police arrested 25 people after clashes at the premier of a movie glorifying homosexuality.

10 November

Flooding forced Italian authorities to declare a state of emergency in Venice.

11 November

Far-right groups in Poland held marches on Independence Day.

12 November

Clashes began between Palestinian Islamic Jihad and Israeli Defence Forces.

Spanish Socialists and Podemos reached deal to form coalition.

17 November

Belarussian elections saw the opposition winning no seats.

20 November

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn unveiled election manifesto targeting billionaires.

22 November

Vowing tighter migrant controls, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said that Greece was not an 'unfenced vineyard'.

23 November

The Far-right National Democratic Party of Germany staged a rally in Hannover.

26 November

A 6.5 magnitude earthquake struck Albanian cities killing 51 people injuring around 2000.

29 November

Days before NATO summit, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan pilloried French President Emmanuel Macron for criticizing Ankara's intervention in Syria by branding him as someone suffering from 'brain death'. Earlier in the month, the French President had lamented NATO's lack of strategic cooperation, and he said that the alliance was hurting due to 'brain death'.

10 December

34-year old Sanna Marin of Finland became the world's youngest serving Prime Minister.

12 December

The Tories gained a majority of 80 seats in the general election.

15 December

Hundreds of Romanians took to the streets in Timisoara to commemorate 30 years since the dissolution of communist rule and those who killed during the anti-communist uprising.

18 December

The European Union Commissioner Ursula von der Leyen warned Great Britain that the Brexit transition deadline of December 2020 was too short to reach an agreement on a trade deal.

20 December

Protests broke out in Belarus against impending deal between Minsk and Moscow which would further deepen economic cooperation between the two neighbours.

21 December

Leaders of Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia met in Tirana to discuss deeper regional cooperation in their bids to join the European Union.

23 December

Turkey warned Europe of a new refugee wave as Syrian forces pounded Idlib.

25 December

Italian education minister resigned over lack of funding for the ministry.

26 December

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced that Ankara would consider sending troops to Libya to strengthen the internationally recognised Government of National Accord which had been fighting against Khalifa Haftar's Libyan National Army.

27 December

Sparking protests in Serbia, Montenegrin parliament passed a controversial law which targeted Serbian Orthodox monasteries and churches.