

CHRONOLOGY

January - December 2020

1 January

Prime Minister of UK Boris Johnson announced that Britain's minimum wage is to increase by more than four times the rate of UK inflation from next year.

Germany decided to shut one of its nuclear power plants as part of a planned phase out of atomic energy production by the end of 2022.

3 January

North Macedonian Prime Minister resigned.

A US drone strike killed Iranian General Qasem Soleimani and Iraqi militia commander Abu Mehdi al-Muhandis near Baghdad Airport.

5 January

Former Abkhazian Prime Minister Anri Djergenja passed away.

6 January

The Spanish parliament rejected the socialist leader Pedro Sanchez's bid to be reappointed as a Prime Minister, but he appeared on track to win a second confidence vote later in the coming week.

8 January

Spain's parliament confirmed socialist leader Pedro Sanchez as Prime Minister for another term.

Amidst intense internal mobilization to respond to any incursion as the IRGC launched missile strikes on US bases in Iraq, a Kyiv-bound Ukrainian passenger airliner was accidentally shot down in the skies of Tehran after it had just taken off.

10 January

The British lawmakers finally approved the historic Brexit bill to set the terms of Britain's departure from the EU.

Madame Tussauds waxwork museum has removed the figures of Prince Harry and Meghan from its British Royal Family display as they announced that they will no longer be a part of royal duties.

11 January

In Brussels, the EU Foreign Ministers held a meeting to discuss ways to guide the United States and Iran away from escalating conflict after the death of Qassem Solemani as continuation of that rift could hinder their efforts and success against IS in the Middle East.

12 January

The French government seeks a compromise to end the longest transport strike in France.

Angela Merkel German Chancellor said that Germany will host Libya peace talks in a joint press conference with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

13 January

Joseph Muscat resigned as Prime Minister of Malta.

16 January

Environmentalists file suit against Angela Merkel's "weak" climate laws in Germany.

Impeachment proceedings began against the US President Donald Trump.

17 January

The European Union's top diplomat met Iran's Foreign Minister and urged him to "preserve" increasingly fragile nuclear technology, according to a statement released in Brussels.

British environmentalists and broadcaster David Attenborough warned that the world is facing a "moment of crisis" on climate change and cannot delay action any longer.

18 January

France has deployed a radar system on the eastern coast of Saudi Arabia to beef up its ally defences after missile attack on the kingdom's oil infrastructure in September.

The UK blacklisted the entire Hezbollah movement.

The European Parliament Brexit coordinator Guy Verhofstadt said, Britain will not automatically deport European Union citizens who have not applied for the right to remain in the country after Brexit.

19 January

The tension between environmentalists and farmers once again raised its ugly head on the sidelines of the 85th International Green Week, the largest agricultural event in Europe, being held in Berlin, attended by more than 1800 exhibitors from 72 countries.

20 January

The UK government is considering moving the House of Lords to York, which is a northern city, according to James Cleverly, the conservative Chairman.

21 January

The European Foreign Ministers discussed reviving a naval mission in the Mediterranean in order to enforce an arms embargo against Libya's warring parties.

A gloomy self-portrait by Vincent van Gogh was declared genuine after decades of uncertainty. The experts identified it as the only work painted by the Dutch master while he suffered from psychosis.

22 January

An Australian-British academic jailed in Iran for espionage when rejected Iran's offer to work as a spy, according to letters she managed to smuggle out of prison letter published in British media.

Katerina Sakellariopoulou elected as Greek President.

23 January

France and the Netherlands smashed a huge migrant smuggling ring to the UK.

Greece's parliament elected the first woman president in the country's history.

24 January

Queen Elizabeth II gave her formal assent for Britain to end its decade long collaboration in the European Union.

27 January

Seven WWII bombs made safe at Tesla's factory site in Germany.

Germany reported its first COVID-19 case.

29 January

Bulgarian Prime Minister Boiko Borisov survived a non-confidence vote. Beijing demanded Danish Daily to apologise for the virus cartoon on publishing drawings of a cartoon on the new virus outbreak in China, which angered muslims worldwide.

Hydrocarbon gases bubbling from the bottom of the Red Sea are polluting the atmosphere at a rate equivalent to the emissions of some large fossil fuel exporting countries.

30 January

The European parliament gave final approval to Britain's exit from the European Union.

UK newspaper Guardian bans fossil fuel adverts and becomes the first major international news organization to do so.

Russia closed its land borders with China to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

1 February

Scottish leader Nicola Sturgeon said she is ready to step up the campaign for Scottish independence from the UK, pleaded that Brexit had set the country to the "wrong road".

3 February

Over 300 rescued migrants arrive at the Italian Pozzallo port from the Mediterranean sea.

4 February

Nearly 50 Catalan and other lawmakers who advocate their region's independence from Spain boycotted the ceremonial opening of the first national legislative session to protest the presence of the royal family.

5 February

The president of the United States Donald Trump was acquitted by the Senate of impeachment charges.

6 February

The tiny central state of Thuringia broke a German political taboo after a candidate for a regional premiership was heaved into office with help from the far-right for the first time ever, promoting a storm of outrage.

8 February

Sinn Fein gained significantly in the Irish general elections.

9 February

Angela Merkel's coalition was shaken by the east German vote in regional elections.

Irish voters cast their vote with Prime Minister Leo Varadkar hoping to secure a new term on the back of his Brexit strategy, but polls put his Fine Gael party behind rivals Sinn Fein and Fianna Fail.

11 February

Merkel's party in crisis after "heir" quits over far-right row.

The World Health Organization named the new flu strain emerging from China as COVID-19.

12 February

Ferocious winds, with gusts over 200 kph (125 mph), lashed Corsica and whipped up a forest fire on the French Mediterranean island.

13 February

Italian far-right leader Matteo Salvini is to stand trial on charges of illegally detaining migrants at sea.

16 February

The leader of the nationalist Sinn Fein party Mary Lou McDonald said that Brexit is a game-changer that could trigger a referendum on Irish unification within three years.

Several thousands of people protested in Erfurt, capital of Thuringia state in Germany's former communist east, where far-right lawmakers helped install a state premier.

18 February

In Berlin, the members of a far-right German group were arrested believed to have been plotting a large scale of attacks on muslims similar to the ones carried out in New Zealand in 2019.

The European Union foreign ministers in a meeting decided that a naval mission stop arm flow in Libya.

19 February

Productivity by the German workers has increased since the country introduced a minimum wage in 2015, a study published by the University College London (ULC) researcher Christian Dustmann.

20 February

Britain is planning to tighten the immigration rules following Brexit.

Portuguese lawmakers voted in favour of euthanasia for terminally ill patients.

22 February

German ministers promised to beef up security and put more police on the streets to quell public fears, after a racist gunman killed nine people.

23 February

Hundreds of supporters of Julian Assange marched through London to pressure the UK government refusing to extradite the WikiLeaks founder to the United States to face spying charges.

24 February

More than 2000 Hungarians, including Roma families and civil groups,

marched to parliament to protest against the government's refusal to pay compensation to Roma children who had been unlawfully segregated in a school in eastern Hungary.

British composer and pianist Alexis Ffrench, a rising black star in the overwhelmingly white world of classical music, is on a mission "to change the narrative" that the genre is stuffy and outdated.

25 February

Former French PM Francois Fillon and wife are facing trial for fraud.

Asia Bibi, a Pakistani Christian opted for asylum in France.

27 February

Coronavirus cases spread in Europe and beyond, with Latin America confirming its first patient as the world scrambled to contain the deadly epidemic.

Activists from Environmental campaign group Extinction Rebellion, some dressed as canaries, blocked the entrance to a British open-cast mine to protest against plans to expand it.

28 February

The United Kingdom reported its first COVID-19 death. A man on-board the cruise ship *Diamond Princess* succumbed to the novel flu strain.

29 February

Luxembourg reported its first COVID-19 case.

The ruling Social Democrats lost to the populist 'Ordinary People and Independent Personalities' in the Slovakian general elections.

1 March

Luxembourg became the first country in the world to offer free public transport, as the small and wealthy EU country tries to help less-well-off workers to reduce road traffic.

3 March

The death toll from the new coronavirus epidemic surpassed 3,000 as more

people died in China, Iran and the US, while Europe raised its state of alert.

The Turkish Interior Ministry announced that over 130,000 migrants had crossed into Greece in past four days.

4 March

Germany has discovered eight right-wing radicals in its armed forces and 27 individuals who have reservations about the constitution, according to a report commissioned to help root out extremism in the military after a scandal in 2017.

Former Peruvian Prime Minister and Secretary-General of the United Nations Javier Perez de Cuellar passed away at the age of 100.

5 March

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan claimed that a fresh migrant crisis could be resolved if the EU supports its efforts in Syria, as violent clashes broke out between refugees and police on the Greek border.

9 March

A quarter of the Italian population was in lockdown as the government took drastic steps to stop the spread Covid-19.

Thousands took the streets across the globe to mark International women's day despite the coronavirus outbreak.

10 March

Britain's opposition Labour party has suspended an anti-racism campaigner over accusations of Islamophobia.

11 March

Turkey defies the EU pressure to shut the border and call summit on the migration crisis.

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic.

12 March

Britain's government vows to build a two-mile tunnel under Stonehenge, the prehistoric site made up of a mysterious circle of stones in Southern

England.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that Germany will spend what it takes to tackle the coronavirus which is likely to infect up to 70% of the population in Europe's largest economy.

13 March

German officials revealed a plans to set up surveillance of a radical wing of the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party after the domestic intelligence agency designated it as an extremist entity that threatens democracy.

The EU and Greek officials said that 5000 asylum seekers on Greek island would be given financial incentives to return home to relieve pressure on overwhelmed camps.

14 March

The EU border protection officers from the Frontex agency launched a surveillance operation along the border between Turkey and Greece to help Athens stem a surge of migrants.

17 March

A German-Tunisian woman who married a German rapper turned the fighter of the militant Islamic State group and kept a child slave in Syria has been charged with crimes against humanity.

French President Emmanuel Macron said that the 27 nation European Union is to close all its external borders for 30 days because of the coronavirus outbreak.

The EU member states decided to close the Schengen area as well as the external borders for a month to control the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

18 March

In a four party video conference, the Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan discussed the migrant crisis and the situation in Syria's rebel enclave of Idlib, along with the leaders of France, Britain and Germany.

For the first time in the event's history, the Eurovision song contest was cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

20 March

The British government apologised for its treatment of Britons of Caribbean origin who were wrongly detained or deported for being illegal immigrants, after the publication of a devastating official report.

World powers were on a war footing against the spiralling coronavirus pandemic despite a sign of hope from China where no new domestic case was reported for the first time.

27 March

Governments across Europe are turning to technology to track the spread of the Coronavirus and monitor people under quarantine, an approach that seeks to learn from Asia but is also putting the region's privacy rules to the test.

A Group of Danish entrepreneurs have started a charity network that stands ready to make up to 20,000 protective visors a day using 3D printers, in an attempt to meet rising demand from doctors and nurses combating the Coronavirus outbreak.

North Macedonia joined NATO as its 30th member.

30 March

The price of Brent Crude fell to its lowest point in 18 years after Russia and Saudi Arabia failed to reach an understanding on the volume of production.

31 March

Van Gogh painting stolen from Dutch museum during the shutdown.

1 April

Three EU countries France, Germany and the UK send medical gear to Iran under the deal to bypass sanctions.

Satellite data of Paris showed Methane gas is leaking from industries sites at rates equivalent to the annual carbon emissions of France and Germany combined.

2 April

A group of European experts said that they would soon launch technology for smartphones to help trace people who had come into contact with those infected with coronavirus, helping the health authorities act swiftly to halt its spread.

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases crosses 1 million mark worldwide.

3 April

The Labour Party holds an election to replace Jeremy Corbyn.

Leaders of Germany's far-right AfD party were at loggerheads over whether its radical "Fluegel" (The Wing) faction should be split off to create a separate party.

4 April

Leadership elections in the Labour Party (UK) saw Kier Starmer defeating Rebecca Long-Bailey and Lisa Nandy.

5 April

Keir Starmer elected new UK Labour leader.

6 April

Pope Francis calls for courage as global death toll tops 65,000.

The US State Department categorized the 'Russian Imperial Movement' as a terrorist organisation.

7 April

More than 50 migrants forced their way into Spain's North African enclave of Melilla in a mass crossing of the heavily-protected border.

8 April

Germany launches a smartwatch app to monitor virus spread.

9 April

French aircraft carrier in the Atlantic heads home over virus fears.

15 April

Italy and Spain allow some businesses to reopen during the strict lockdown.

The Danish government plans to reopen society more quickly than anticipated as the number of coronavirus related hospitalisations continues to fall.

The United Kingdom decided to begin chartered flights to bring back stranded Britons in Pakistan.

17 April

According to the World Health Organization Europe still 'in the eye of storm' on the coronavirus pandemic.

The COVID-19 death toll in Europe rose to more than 100,000.

22 April

According to the UN estimates Covid-19 could double the number of people facing hunger.

23 April

Race for vaccine pick up in Germany, and UK after the trials starts.

24 April

The first trial of former Syrian officials Anwar Raslan and Eyad al-Gharib opened in Germany. They have been accused of crimes against humanity.

25 April

The EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier deplored a lack of progress in the latest round of post-Brexit trade talks.

27 April

The German government switched to a coronavirus tracking app using technology supported by Apple and Google.

Dutch students complete Atlantic crossing despite hurdles forced by Covid-19.

The UK resists calls to ease lockdown as Johnson sets to resume work as

pressure increases on the UK government over its handling of the coronavirus crisis which has claimed more than 20,000 lives.

The mayor of Prague, Zdeněk Hřib, confirmed that he had been under police protection to avoid being targeted in a Russian poison attack. His municipality had taken down a statue of a Soviet-era Marshal Ivan Konev who was the first Allied commander to enter Prague following the Prague uprising.

5 May

French-flag carrier Air France announced that masks would be compulsory on flights from next week as France emerges from its lockdown to combat the Coronavirus.

Protesters stage day of action against Britain's planned high speed rail link.

The UK minister resigned after an inquiry found he abused his position.

Iran claimed that Germany was paying 'debt' to Israel with Hezbollah ban.

6 May

An antibody that can stop the new coronavirus infecting cells in laboratory tests has been identified by the researchers in the Netherlands.

7 May

The British Museum and customs have uncovered hundreds of fake Mesopotamian antiquities that likely originated in the Middle East.

9 May

Global leaders marked 75 years since the end of World War II in Europe, urging citizens to draw inspiration from the historic victory as the world battles against the coronavirus pandemic.

According to a study conducted in Paris Oceans may rise over a metre by 2100, five metres by 2300.

10 May

Britain could introduce a 14-day mandatory quarantine for international arrivals to stem the spread of the coronavirus.

11 May

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson issues new advisory plan ahead of the lockdown plan.

12 May

Asia infections spike as Europe emerges from lockdown.

French ex-president d'Estaing probed over assault claims.

13 May

London museum preserves lockdown life under the caption of Face masks and slippers.

Britain's fruit and vegetable farmers have long dreaded their country's exit from the European Union, worrying that it would keep out the tens of thousands of Eastern European workers who come every year to pick produce.

14 May

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg expressed the alliance's readiness to support the UN-recognised Government of National Accord in Libya drawing rebuke from Greece. Athens maintained that NATO shouldn't support a government under the influence of the Muslim Brotherhood.

15 May

The European Union's medicine agency suggested that a vaccine for the coronavirus could be ready in a year.

Massive cable project set to give internet boost in Africa.

16 May

French nurses and doctors faced off with President Macron at a leading Paris hospital demanding better pay and a rethink of a once-renowned public health system that found itself quickly overwhelmed by tens of thousands of covid-19 patients.

17 May

Alarm in Germany as 'virus sceptics' mount protests.

18 May

The UK royal swan census was cancelled due to Covid-19.

A report claimed that Britain's wealthiest people have lost tens of billions of pounds in the coronavirus pandemic as their combined annual wealth for the first time in a decade.

20 May

Rwanda genocide suspect Kabuga brought before a French court.

22 May

The United Nations called on the EU to reach a deal to take in 160 migrants who have been stranded in the Mediterranean sea for two weeks.

23 May

The UK to introduce a 14-day quarantine for international arrivals.

24 May

Italy opens Greek sites as lockdown eases.

27 May

J.K Rowling publishes fairy tales so children can dream in lockdown.

Angela Merkel shattered a long-standing German taboo last week when she unexpectedly unveiled a plan to fund the EU's coronavirus recovery through shared debt.

28 May

EU proposes 750bn euro coronavirus recovery fund.

The Vatican has ordered exile to a religious leader Enzo Bore, founder of an Italian monastic community over governance problems.

30 May

Britain pushed US to form a 5G club of nations to reduce dependency on Huawei.

Britain calls for the 5G club of nations to cut out the use of as the US department asked.

1 June

The EU persuaded that UK post-Brexit deal is vital during covid-19 crisis.

3 June

A US senate warned the British government that the US forces could leave the UK if government plugs Chinese technology on its 5G (Huawei).

Russian President Vladimir Putin declared a state of emergency after 20,000 tons of oil leaked in the Arctic circle a week before.

Avdullah Hoti became the new Kosovan Prime Minister.

7 June

French troops kill Al-Qaeda's North Africa chief in Northern Mali near the Algerian border.

9 June

UK denounces toppling of slave trader's statue in Bristol.

Spain investigates the former king over the deal with Saudis.

11 June

Europe to accelerate trials of gene-engineered Covid-19 vaccines.

Swedish prosecutors on Wednesday named their main suspect in the 1986 killing of prime minister Olof Palme, closing the murder case that has gripped the Scandinavian country for more than three decades.

13 June

Swedish climate campaigner Greta Thunberg can add to her list of personal accolades including TIME magazine's person of the year.

14 June

Germany, France, Italy and Netherlands signed an agreement with British pharmaceutical AstraZeneca on purchase of 300m coronavirus vaccine doses.

15 June

Berliners formed a socially distanced human chain against racism.

A statue of a famous Italian journalist Indro Montanelli defaced in Milan.

Clashes in the Ladakh region of the Sino-Indian frontier left at least 20 Indian and over 40 Chinese soldiers dead.

16 June

European states reopen their borders after three months of interstate closure.

17 June

EU, US display differences over Serbia Kosovo negotiations.

The UK government to give a foreign minister full control of the overseas aid budget.

24 June

Amazon pledged \$2bn investment to fight climate change.

27 June

The United States and Europe battled a resurgence of coronavirus cases as warnings mounted worldwide over reopening lockdowns too soon.

Michael Martin replaced Leo Varadkar as the Irish Prime Minister.

29 June

Several detained at an anti-social distancing rally in the Hague.

30 June

Mercedes Paris goes black in support of the anti-racism movement.

1 July

Europe restricts visitors from the US amid virus resurgence.

2 July

France pulls out of NATO maritime operation over Turkey tensions.

3 July

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has urged European Union leaders to reach agreement on a multi-billion euro coronavirus recovery fund, calling for resolve as Europe was facing the most difficult situation in its history.

French Prime Minister Édouard Philippe resigned.

4 July

French President Emmanuel Macron replaces PM Edouard Philippe, sets out on 'new course'.

Germany is the first major economy to phase out coal, nuclear energy.

5 July

A British royal historian Prof. David Starkey quits Cambridge University over slavery claims.

6 July

Italy rescued 180 migrants in the Mediterranean.

9 July

Germany's health minister Jens Spahn lamented the formal US notification of its withdrawal from the World Health Organization as a setback for international cooperation emphasized that the EU would work to reform the UN health agency.

10 July

The EU court ruled that Youtube is not obliged to reveal private information on the identity of people posting illegal content on its platform.

11 July

France asks Israel to drop West Bank annexation plans.

The Netherlands said it would take Russia to the European Court of Human Right for its role in bringing down Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over Ukraine, killing nearly 300 people.

13 July

Pope Francis said that he was hurt by Turkey's decision to make Istanbul's Hagia Sophia museum a mosque.

Britain pledges \$890m to prepare post-Brexit borders.

14 July

Britain is home to at least 100,000 modern slaves, according to a new study, 10 times more than the official estimate, as activists warned 90pc of victims may be going undetected.

15 July

Queen Elizabeth II was not informed in advance about the 1975 dismissal of Australia's Prime Minister by her representative in the country, letters kept secret for decades and released recently.

Britain bans China's Huawei, handing the US a big win.

Former North Macedonian prime minister Zoran Zaev returned to power after his coalition, 'We Can', gained majority in the parliamentary elections.

16 July

A European Union court delivered a blow to the bloc's attempts to rein in multinationals, ability to strike tax deals with individual EU countries when it ruled that Apple does not have to pay 13 billion euros in back taxes to Ireland.

17 July

World's first e-pilgrimage held at Lourdes shrine in France.

18 July

British Airways retired its Boeing 747 jumbo jets this week, hastening its withdrawal of the aging plane after the coronavirus pandemic crushed demand for air travel and carriers began switching to greener jets.

Britain's Supreme Court suggested its judges could stop serving in Hong Kong unless judicial independence and the rule of law were guaranteed in the city.

19 July

China warns the UK over basing aircraft carriers in Pacific.

20 July

The first trial begins in Italy over 'Migrant pushback' to Libya.

21 July

The UK suspends extradition treaty with Hong Kong.

The European Union created a €750 billion fund to resuscitate the pandemic hit economies.

22 July

The European leaders agreed a massive aid package for their pandemic-ravaged economies.

23 July

The UK government decided to open citizenship paths to Hong Kongers from January 2021.

24 July

The number of Virus infection soared, past three million in Europe.

25 July

New rules on wearing masks in England came into effect, with people entering shops, banks and supermarkets now required to wear face coverings, as Romania reported a record for daily infections and new cases nearly doubled in France.

30 July

The US government unveiled a plan to withdraw nearly 12,000 troops from Germany, in a strategic move.

8 August

Pope Francis has appointed six women to the Vatican's economic council.

Germany and France quit WHO reform talks amid tensions with Washinton.

Former Spanish King John Carlos paid a visit to the UAE.

10 August

The US and UK call for prompt polls in Hong Kong.

11 August

Russian President announced that Russia had greenlighted the world's first COVID-19 vaccine.

12 August

Spain again grapples with Europe's worst Covid-19 virus infection rate.

Britain presses France to halt 'unacceptable' migrant crossings.

Athens called for the EU meeting for Turkey, Greece Mediterranean standoff.

Iran has jailed two men over spying for Britain, Germany and Israel, the latest in a string of espionage cases that have led to arrest and executions.

13 August

Israel and the United Arab Emirates decided to normalize their relations.

14 August

Thousands of protesters formed human chains and marched in Belarus in a growing wave of peaceful demonstrations over President Alexander Lukashenko's disputed re-election and an ensuing brutal police crackdown.

15 August

Experts disposed off of chemicals at UK nuclear sites.

16 August

President Alexander Lukashenko said that his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin had offered full assistance to ensure security in Belarus as thousands held peaceful protests against his rule.

17 August

The US State Secretary Mike Pompeo inks deal for US troops to move from Germany to Poland.

The EU urges Turkey to halt gas hunt in the East Mediterranean.

20 August

The EU rejected Belarus vote result as Lukashenko orders clampdown.

21 August

The WHO warns Europe against lockdowns.

22 August

According to UNHCR Greece is pushing migrants back to sea.

The Kremlin was accused of standing by weakened Lukashenko.

23 August

Serbia quiet on a fence building near the border.

24 August

Large fire burns into the second day on Greece's Mani peninsula.

The UK plans to drop tax on Facebook and Google.

25 August

The Berlin hospital treating leading Russian opposition figure Alexei Navalny confirmed that test results indicated that he had been poisoned, contradicting the findings of Russian doctors.

26 August

Germany asked Turkey and Greece to defuse their escalating row over gas exploration in the Mediterranean on risk of sparking a "catastrophe".

The British museum has moved a bust of its founder Sir Hans Sloane to an "enlightenment gallery" because of his links to slavery.

27 August

Greece and its EU allies held war games in the Mediterranean while Turkey conducted drills with the US navy nearby as the row between the two neighbours over gas and maritime borders ratcheted up another notch.

29 August

The EU urged Russia not to intervene in Belarus after President Vladimir Putin vowed military support for the country's embattled leader.

1 September

Poland's anti-communist legend Lech Walesa warned against populism at the 40th anniversary of the freedom-fighting solidarity movement.

2 September

French President Emmanuel Macron warned Lebanese leaders to reform swiftly or face sanctions.

5 September

New Swiss Alps tunnel set to transform Europe's rail links.

Turkey accused Greece of shunning dialogue and lying after Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said Nato-brokered talks to reduce tension in the eastern Mediterranean could only be held if Ankara stopped making "threats".

Serbia, Kosovo agreed to normalise economic ties.

6 September

Climate change protesters in Britain blockaded two printing presses, disrupting the distribution of numerous national newspapers as they stepped up 10 days of protest demanding action on environmental issues.

US troops drill in Lithuania as Belarus tensions mount.

9 September

Britain's government admitted that it may break international law by not applying parts of its Brexit divorce deal relating to Northern Ireland.

10 September

The UK government published a controversial UK's internal Market Bill that would break international law by overriding parts of the Brexit treaty. The Bill sparked concerns in Dublin and Brussels.

Fire at migrant camp in Greece leaves thousands homeless.

11 September

The EU legal expert opposes a Flemish ban on ritual animal slaughter.

12 September

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Alexander Lukashenko had discussed an integration plan.

13 September

French 'yellow vests' protesters return to Paris streets.

15 September

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that plans to break the Brexit treaty needed to counter the EU's 'revolver'.

16 September

Germany agreed to take in 15,000 refugees from Greece.

The EU parliament votes to make ships pay for their pollution.

17 September

Barbados to remove Queen Elizabeth as head of state.

21 September

Thousands marched in Germany urging the EU to take in refugees.

22 September

Italy's left has won in battle with the far-right for Tuscany.

23 September

In the Hague, Europe has claimed a victory on targeting 179 dark web sellers and seized millions in currency, drugs and guns in the European states and the US.

26 September

Thousands of young people across Europe joined a global day of climate protest, for saving the earth.

27 September

War broke out between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region.

28 September

French President Emmanuel Macron accused Lebanese leaders of ‘betrayal’ over government failure.

30 September

French police dismantled a camp of about 800 migrants in the port city of Calais, the biggest such operation since the sprawling “Jungle” shantytown was broken up for four years.

1 October

The new Belgian government under Prime Minister Alexander De Croo took office.

3 October

Madrid’s regional leaders filed a legal challenge against the imposition of a partial lockdown across the capital and several nearby towns, just hours before it came into force.

The US imposed Belarus with sanctions, as Minsk retaliates against the EU measures.

6 October

The UN refugee chief, Filippo Grandi condemned Europe’s pushback of migrants as ‘shameful’.

8 October

A Greek court found the leaders of neo-Nazi party Golden Dawn guilty of running a criminal organization at the end of a historic trial that was hailed by the Prime Minister as a victory for democracy.

11 October

Prime Minister Ersin Tatar defeated incumbent President Mustafa Akinci in the North Cyprus presidential elections.

13 October

Researchers on the world’s biggest mission to the North Pole returned to Germany, bringing home devastating proof of a dying Arctic ocean and warnings of ice-free summers in just decades.

14 October

EU pushes the UK to budge at 'critical stage' in Brexit talks.

16 October

A French school teacher Samuel Paty was killed by a Chechen refugee after he shared blasphemous cartoon published by the Charlie Hebdo in 2012 with his students in a class on 'freedom of expression'.

19 October

Europe surges past 250,000 deaths due to Covid-19.

20 October

Nokia and Nasa announced a plan to install 4G on the moon.

French police launched a series of raids targeting Islamist networks, after the beheading of a history teacher in Paris.

22 October

The Polish constitutional court ruled aborting fetuses with congenital defects unconstitutional.

1 November

Maia Sandu, leader of the pro-EU Party of Action and Solidarity party, won 36.2% of the vote in the first round of Moldovan presidential elections. She would eventually win the run-off later in the month.

3 November

Former vice president Joe Biden defeated incumbent President Donald Trump in the United States Presidential elections. Donald Trump refused to concede alleging massive irregularities.

4 November

The United States of America formally left the Paris Agreement on climate change.

5 November

Kosovan President Hashim Thaci resigned.

8 November

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases surged to more than 50 million worldwide.

11 November

The Russian Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine proved 92% effective according to interim results.

18 November

Pfizer and BioNTech announced that they had completed the trials on their COVID-19 vaccine which had an effectiveness rate of 95% with no adverse effects.

The French police recently cleared a migrant street camp outside the Stade de France stadium north of Paris where around 2000 people, mainly Afghan and African, had been living in cramped tents.

20 November

Britain announced its biggest military spending increase since the Cold War pleading to end the “era of retreat” as it seeks a post-Brexit role in a world.

21 November

Azerbaijan announced that its troops entered a district bordering Nagorno-Karabakh handed back by Armenian separatist as part of a Russian brokered peace deal to end weeks of fighting in the region.

22 November

The United States of America formally withdrew from the Treaty on Open Skies.

24 November

Turkey accused the German Navy for conducting an "unauthorised" searched on a Turkish-flagged cargo vessel in a bid to enforce a United Nations arms embargo in Libya.

25 November

French authorities ordered an investigation into the forceful removal by police of a camp of migrants in central Paris that prompted outrage over the “brutal” tactics used.

26 November

The British government faced fury over its decision to ditch its long-standing target for overseas aid in the wake of what it described as the deepest recession in over three centuries.

France's highest administrative court rejected appeals against the dissolution of a Muslim NGO and the sixth month shuttering of a mosque ordered by the government after the beheading of a teacher by an Islamist radical.

27 November

The Head of British drug manufacturer AstraZeneca said that further research was needed on Covid-19 vaccine after questions emerged over the protection it offers, but the additional testing is unlikely to affect regulatory approval in Europe.

An Iranian physicist, Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, was assassinated near Tehran.

29 November

Thousands took to the streets across France to demand the government abandon contentious new security law, in a controversy intensified by the beating a racial abuse of a black man by police officers that shocked the country.

Scotland's first minister Nicola Sturgeon said that she had "never been more certain" of achieving independence, with Britain's final departure from the EU trading arrangement set to precede key Scottish elections in the months ahead.

30 November

A human rights group in Belarus says over 300 people have been detained during a protest against the country's authoritarian president, who won his sixth term in office in a vote widely seen as rigged.

1 December

Four police officers were charged over the beating and racial abuse of a black music producer, as President Emmanuel Macron scrambled to contain the political fallout from the case that has sparked outrage in France.

2 December

In Hague, the Environmental groups faced off against Shell before a Dutch court in a Landmark bid to force the oil giant to meet emissions targets in the Paris climate accord.

Azerbaijani troops hoisted the flag in the district given up by Armenia under a peace deal.

Former French president (1974-81) Valéry Giscard d'Estaing passed away at the age of 94.

3 December

International Labour Organization report found in Paris, hitting global economic activity amidst the coronavirus, has also dragged down wages.

4 December

The European Union retains a ban on the PIA flights due to increasing number of infections.

The former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing died after suffering from the Covid-19. He was 94.

5 December

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said he hoped France would get rid of Emmanuel Macron as soon as possible.

The German divers recently fished an Enigma encryption machine out of the Baltic sea, used by the Nazis to send coded messages during WWII, handed their rare find over to a museum for restoration.

Europeans doubt over a post-Brexit deal with Britain boiled with France threatening a veto as tricky negotiations entered what could be their final hours.

6 December

Britain and the European Union will reconvene post-Brexit trade negotiations in Brussels after the UK's Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the EU chief Ursula von der Leyen held inconclusive talks, as time runs

short to seal a deal.

7 December

Thousands of people protested in central London over agricultural reforms that have triggered mass demonstration in India.

8 December

French President Emmanuel Macron acknowledged disagreements with Egyptian President Abdel Fatah el Sisi over human rights but it would not prevent France from reaching economic and defence deals with the North African country, which have seen the heaviest crackdown on dissent in its modern history.

Romanian Prime Minister resigns after the party loses the election.

10 December

Morocco normalizes relations with the state of Israel. The United States also recognized Moroccan sovereignty over the Western Sahara.

11 December

The British Prime Minister said the last-gasp talks for a Brexit trade deal with the European Union could fail and urged the public to prepare for a "no-deal".

The French President Emmanuel Macron gave his Egyptian counterpart Abdel Fatah Al-Sisi his country's highest award on his state visit to Paris.

The European Union agreed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 55% over the next ten years.

13 December

The United Nations chief urged world leaders to declare a "state of climate emergency" and shape greener growth after the coronavirus pandemic, as he opened a summit marking five years since the landmark Paris Agreement.

The UK puts the navy on standby to protect fishing if Brexit talks fail.

14 December

Azerbaijan announced that four of its troops had been killed in the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region since a peace deal with Armenian separatist was agreed in early November.

17 December

The EU and the British negotiators were closing in on a deal to oversee fair competition in a post-Brexit trade deal, but remain deeply divided over fishing.

19 December

After decades of neglect, one of ancient Rome's most important monuments, the mausoleum of the first emperor Augustus, has been restored and will reopen early next year.

20 December

British MPs warn countries not ready for Brexit as Britain has not yet installed the complex IT systems and port infrastructure needed to ensure Brexit runs smoothly.

21 December

Fisheries dispute threatens to sink post-Brexit trade deal.

Russian President Vladimir Putin hailed the country's "courageous" spies as he visited the headquarters of the Foreign Intelligence Service to mark its 100th birthday.

23 December

Russia slapped tit-for-tat sanctions on the EU officials over their response to the poisoning of Alexi Navalny, saying the opposition leader had a persecution complex and "compares himself to Jesus".

24 December

Research published in Paris says that face masks reduce the risks of spreading large Covid-linked droplets when speaking or coughing by up to 99.9%.

The United Kingdom and the European Union reached consensus on a comprehensive free trade deal a week before the end of the transition period.

25 December

Britain has clinched a last-minute trade agreement with the European Union that will preserve its zero-quota access to the bloc's single market of 450 million consumers.

UK, EU reach a post-Brexit trade agreement.

28 December

Turkey warns Haftar's forces against attacking its forces in Libya.

29 December

The UK warns of 'bumpy' post-Brexit transition despite the deal.

31 December

Hundreds of migrants from Africa, Asia and the Middle East were left stranded in the open air when an attempt to relocate them to another site in Bosnia after fire wrecked their temporary camp failed.

Uk watchdog approves use of 'vaccine of the world'.

The transition period began after the United Kingdom exited the European Union ended.