

CHRONOLOGY

January - June 2024

02 January

The European Union allowed Kosovo nationals to travel freely to its member states without a visa for 90 days.

04 January

The United States and France issued strong condemnations of Israel's controversial plan to displace Palestinians from Gaza forcibly.

05 January

Russian President Vladimir Putin offered citizenship to those Ukrainians who fought for Russia against the war in Ukraine with their families.

06 January

The Greek government restored the Palace of Aigai, where "Alexander the Great" was crowned, and would reopen for the public after the renovation aimed to cherish its past glory.

09 January

G7 and European diplomats assembled in Abu Dhabi to seek a quick exit from the military phase of the Gaza crisis.

10 January

The German government announced a resumption of direct arms exports to Saudi Arabia, which was banned in 2018 after the Khashoggi killing.

11 January

Pakistan endorsed South Africa's initiative to persuade the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the United Nations to declare Israeli aggression in Gaza and the West Bank as 'genocide' – a war crime.

13 January

In a meeting with Belgian Prime Minister, Alexander De Croo, Chinese President Xi Jinping said that China was interested in strengthening its relations with the European Union. He emphasized building more bridges between China and Europe in a chaotic international situation.

16 January

In Berlin, the capital city of Germany, thousands of angry farmers along with their tractors protested against the government to roll back tax breaks for agriculture.

18 January

In Paris, journalists around the world gathered and rallied to show solidarity with Gaza. The demonstration was organized by AFP management with unions and the journalists' association (SDJ).

20 January

The Russian government urged Hamas to release all prisoners as the humanitarian situation in Gaza has reached a "catastrophic" level.

21 January

In Frankfurt, Germany, more than 100,000 people came out on the streets to protest against the Far-Right party AfD for having the mass deportation plans on its agenda.

22 January

In Brussels, around 9000 people came out and protested against Israel, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

26 January

The German protestant church admitted that they did not protect children/minors from abusers within the organization.

The French farmers protested against the government as the government increased fuel prices and put heavy taxes on it.

28 January

India and France agreed to work together on the joint production of defense equipment including helicopters and submarines for the Indian armed forces.

02 February

The EU leaders unanimously agreed on extending €50 billion aid to Ukraine, after weeks of resistance from Hungary.

The Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg went on trial as she protested outside the oil and gas conference in London.

09 February

Europe's Climate monitor, Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), said that the earth had endured 12 months of temperatures 1.5 degrees hotter than the pre-industrial era for the first time in record. Scientists called it a "warning to humanity".

18 February

The European Union launched a naval mission to help protect the Red Sea shipping.

21 February

Speaking in Paris, the COP28 President, Sultan Al Jaber said that the world needs "trillions" of dollars to spur on the green transition and tackle global warming. Also warned that political momentum could evaporate without serious action.

22 February

Google released "open" AI models after Meta.

04 March

France made right to abortion constitutional; however, the law was harshly criticized by anti-abortion groups. Meanwhile, an 80% French poll indicated that people wanted abortion to be legal.

05 March

The forced labour products were banned in the European single market, according to a joint statement from the EU Council and Parliament.

09 March

Ukrainian Prime Minister visited Türkiye. Both countries were engaged in mutual industrial growth and defence cooperation. President Erdoğan also offered to host a summit for a bilateral solution for the Russia and Ukraine war.

12 March

The French national assembly with overwhelming support approved a 10-year security agreement with Ukraine, which includes training soldiers, ammunition, and military aid. Paris delivered €3 billion military aid to Ukraine in the calendar year.

15 March

The European Parliament foreign affairs committee chief David McAllister said that the EU had to grow more in the defence sector, which meant the EU would invest in the defence industry for its crucial role in regional and international affairs.

17 March

A volcano in the Reykjavik peninsula erupted for the fourth time since December. Iceland called for emergency management to protect civilians. The fissure was estimated to be 2.9 kilometers wide.

20 March

Finland remained the world's happiest Nordic state in the world according to an UN-sponsored World Happiness Report.

21 March

The union of 27 members agreed to begin the process to induct new members. The EU would start negotiations with Bosnia.

24 March

Russia observed a national mourning day over the barbaric attack by the "Islamic State" at the Crocus city hall concert venue in Krasnogorsk which 137 had been killed.

31 March

After 13 years of waiting, Romania and Bulgaria finally joined the EU's visa-free Schengen area.

04 April

NATO celebrated its 75th anniversary on 4th April. The alliance added Finland and Sweden as its newest members.

05 April

The EU pledged €270 million aid to Armenia seeking ties with Yerevan.

09 April

Simon Harrison, who has been a former education minister, elected as Ireland's youngest leader at 37. He vowed to bring new ideas, new energy, and new empathy to public life.

25 April

Portugal celebrated 50 years of Carnation Revolution.

29 April

Scottish first minister Hamza Yusuf resigned.

07 May

Colombia University cancelled its graduation ceremony after demonstration in favour of Gaza.

Türkiye's government reopened the Kariye Mosque, formerly a Byzantine Church, in Istanbul for Muslim worshippers.

13 May

At the Versailles Palace, French Prime Minister Emmanuel Macron hosted a "Choose France" Investment Summit. In the presence of 180 global CEOs, France pledged €15 billion worth of investment in 56 projects.

14 May

EU's government ministers approved asylum and migration reforms including the screening, registration, and monitoring of the financial plan. The plan outlined new asylum and migration rules by the second half of 2026.

15 May

Slovakian Prime Minister Robert Fico survived an assassination attempt.

27 May

The Council finally adopted the eco-design regulation, which set requirements for sustainable products to be placed in the EU markets. It would incentivize the public purchase of green products.

01 June

Italian Prime Minister Georgia Meloni announced that the United States and Italy sketched a plan to exchange refugees to avoid illegal migration.

05 June

The United Nations Refugee Agency warned that if Europe took a more anti-migrant stance following upcoming elections it could impact the willingness of countries globally to host refugees and create chaos.

12 June

A new study found that atmospheric levels of hydrofluorocarbons (HCFs), harmful gasses responsible for holes in the ozone layer, peaked in 2021 - five years ahead of projections.

17 June

Germany was holding talks with Uzbekistan to enable deportation from Germany to Afghanistan without direct consultation with the Taliban, the German magazine Der Spiegel reported.

20 June

According to the US-based Health Effects Institute report, nearly 200 children died every day from health problems due to air pollution.