

YEAR REVIEW 2021- International

As we bid goodbye to the year 2021 and welcome 2022 SPIS organized a YEAR REVIEW of 2021 on December 31, 2021. This year brought us yet more pandemic and endless fatigue. But in spite of it all, we found a way to live as a family. So let's have a look at some of the incidents from the year review of SPIS that happened internationally.

Reference : Wikipedia

January

- January 1 – The African Continental Free Trade Area comes into effect.
- January 4 – The border between Qatar and Saudi Arabia reopens.
- January 6 – Supporters of outgoing President Donald Trump attack the United States Capitol, disrupting certification of the 2020 presidential election and forcing Congress to evacuate. Five people died during the riot, including a police officer and a woman who was shot and killed inside the Capitol building. The event is classified as a domestic terrorist attack and drew international condemnation.
- January 10 – Kim Jong-un is elected as the General Secretary of the ruling Workers' Party of Korea, inheriting the title from his father Kim Jong-il, who died in 2011.
- January 13 – In Lyon, France, the first transplant of both arms and shoulders is performed on an Icelandic patient at the Édouard Herriot Hospital.
- January 14 – The 2021 Ugandan general election is held.
- January 15
 - The Lao People's Revolutionary Party elects Thongloun Sisoulith as its new General Secretary, replacing retiring chief Bounnhang Vorachith. Sisoulith is elected for a five-year term as top leader in Laos.
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The global death toll from COVID-19 passes 2 million.
- January 20 – Joe Biden is inaugurated as the 46th President of the United States.
- January 22 – The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the first legally binding international agreement to comprehensively prohibit nuclear weapons, comes into effect.
- January 24 – 2021 Portuguese presidential election: Incumbent president Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa is reelected.
- January 26 – COVID-19 pandemic: The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases exceeds 100 million worldwide.
- January 29 – COVID-19 pandemic: The European Union invokes Article 16 of the Northern Ireland Protocol following a row over COVID-19 vaccine supplies before reversing the decision.

- **January 31** – Nguyễn Phú Trọng is re-elected for a third five-year term as the **General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam**.

February

- **February 1**
 - A **coup d'état** in **Myanmar** removes **Aung San Suu Kyi** from power and restores **military** rule leading to **widespread demonstrations across the country**.
 - **Kosovo** officially establishes diplomatic ties with Israel and announces plans to **open an embassy** in **Jerusalem**.
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The number of **vaccinations** administered worldwide exceeds 100 million.
- **February 4** – President **Joe Biden** announces that the United States will cease providing weapons to **Saudi Arabia** and the **United Arab Emirates** (UAE) for use in the **Yemeni Civil War**.
- **February 9**
 - COVID-19 pandemic: A joint **WHO–China** investigation into the source of the outbreak concludes. Investigators deem a **Wuhan** laboratory leak to be "extremely unlikely", with a "natural reservoir" in **bats** being a more likely origin.
 - The UAE's uncrewed **Hope** spacecraft becomes the first **Arabian** mission to successfully enter orbit around **Mars**.
- **February 13–17** – A **major winter storm** kills at least 136 people and causes over 9.9 million power outages in the **U.S.**
- **February 18** – **NASA's Mars 2020** mission (containing the **Perseverance** rover and **Ingenuity** helicopter drone) lands on **Mars** at **Jezero Crater**, after seven months of travel.
- **February 19** – The United States officially rejoins the **Paris Agreement**, 107 days after leaving.
- **February 20** – **2020–21 H5N8 outbreak**: 7 people test positive for **H5N8** bird flu at a poultry farm in southern Russia, becoming the first known human cases.
- **February 22**
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The United States becomes the first country to surpass 500,000 deaths from the virus.
 - **Luca Attanasio**, the **Italian Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo**, is **murdered** near **Goma**.
- **February 24** – COVID-19 pandemic: the **COVAX** vaccine-sharing initiative delivers its first vaccines, delivering 600,000 doses for health-care workers in **Ghana**.
- **February 25**
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The global death toll from COVID-19 surpasses 2.5 million.

- The [Armenian military](#) calls for prime minister [Nikol Pashinyan](#) to resign. Pashinyan accuses the military of [attempting a coup d'état](#).

March

- [March 6](#) – [Pope Francis](#) meets with [Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani](#) in [Najaf, Iraq](#). It is the first ever meeting between a [pope](#) and a grand ayatollah.
- [March 17](#) – The [Dutch general elections](#) for the [House of Representatives of the Netherlands](#) take place.
- [March 19](#) – [North Korea](#) severs [diplomatic ties](#) with [Malaysia](#) due to its citizens being extradited to the United States to face money-laundering charges. Malaysian authorities order North Korean officials to leave the country in 48 hours.
- [March 20](#) – [Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan](#) announces his country's withdrawal from the [Istanbul Convention](#), the first country to do so.
- [March 21](#) – [Clashes](#) in [Apure](#) between [Colombian FARC dissidents](#) and the [Venezuelan Armed Forces](#) cause at least eight casualties, as well as displacing 4,000 Venezuelans.
- [March 23](#)
 - The [Israeli general elections](#) take place, the fourth Knesset election in two years.
 - *Ever Given*, one of the largest container ships in the world, [runs aground](#) and obstructs the [Suez Canal](#), disrupting global trade. The ship is freed on March 29.
- [March 25](#) – COVID-19 pandemic: The number of [vaccinations](#) administered worldwide exceeds 500 million.

April

- [April 2](#) – Russia warns [NATO](#) against sending any troops to aid Ukraine, amid reports of a large Russian military build-up on its [borders](#).
- [April 4](#)
 - The [2021 Bulgarian parliamentary election](#) takes place.
 - More than 270 people are killed in [Indonesia](#) and [East Timor](#) after [Cyclone Seroja](#) strikes [East Nusa Tenggara](#) and the island of [Timor](#).
- [April 9](#) – [Roscosmos](#) launches the [Soyuz MS-18](#) mission, carrying three [Expedition 65](#) crewmembers to the [International Space Station](#).
- [April 11](#)
 - [Peru](#) holds a [general election](#) with [Pedro Castillo](#) and the left-wing [Free Peru](#) party winning an incredibly close election.
 - [Iran](#) accuses [Israel](#) of "nuclear terrorism" and vows revenge after a large explosion destroys the internal power system of the [Natanz uranium enrichment plant](#).
 - [Hideki Matsuyama](#) wins the [2021 Masters Tournament](#), becoming the first man from [Japan](#) to win a major golf championship.

- **April 13**
 - Japan's government approves the dumping of radioactive water of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean over the course of 30 years, with full support of the International Atomic Energy Agency. The decision is opposed by China, South Korea, and Taiwan.
 - The Janssen COVID-19 vaccine is paused over causing rare blood clots.
- **April 15** – Scientists announce they successfully injected human stem cells into the embryos of monkeys, creating chimera-embryos.
- **April 17**
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The global death toll from COVID-19 surpasses 3 million.
 - The Czech government concludes that the Russian GRU was responsible for the blast of two ammo warehouses in Vrbětice in 2014. 18 Russian diplomats and alleged spies are subsequently expelled.
 - The Soyuz MS-17 mission concludes, returning three crewmembers of Expedition 64 to Earth from the International Space Station.
- **April 18**
 - Twelve football clubs, including three from La Liga and leading clubs from the Premier League and Serie A, agree to join a new breakaway European Super League, prompting international condemnation. Two days later, following major protests from supporters, other clubs and politicians, Manchester City withdraw from the league; this prompts all the remaining Premier League clubs and three others to do the same.
 - The 2021 Cape Verdean parliamentary election takes place.
- **April 19**
 - NASA's Ingenuity helicopter, part of the Mars 2020 mission, performs the first powered flight on another planet in history.
 - Raúl Castro resigns as First Secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, ending more than 62 years of rule by the Castro brothers in Cuba.
- **April 20** – Idriss Déby, President of Chad, is killed in clashes with rebel forces after 30 years in office. The constitution is suspended and a Transitional Military Council is established to govern the country for 18 months.
- **April 21** – COVID-19 pandemic: With global case numbers approaching a second peak, India reports 315,000 infections within 24 hours, the highest one-day tally recorded anywhere in the world to date.
- **April 22** – World leaders mark Earth Day by hosting a virtual summit on climate change, during which more ambitious targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions are proposed, including a 40% cut by 2030 for the United States.
- **April 23**
 - SpaceX launches the Crew-2 mission, carrying four crew members of Expedition 65 and 66 to the International Space Station aboard Crew Dragon Endeavour.

- UEFA announces that due to a lack of guarantees regarding spectators caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, [Aviva Stadium](#) in [Dublin](#), Ireland would be removed as a tournament host for the [UEFA Euro 2020](#).
- [April 24](#)
 - Following an international search and rescue effort, the [Indonesian](#) navy reports the sinking of [KRI Nanggala](#) with 53 crew members, the largest loss of life aboard a submarine since [2003](#).
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The number of [vaccinations](#) administered worldwide exceeds 1 billion. Half of these doses have been administered in just three countries (the United States, China and India).
- [April 25](#) – [Albania](#) holds [parliamentary elections](#).
- [April 28](#)
 - At least 55 people are killed and nearly 50,000 more are displaced in [one of the most serious clashes](#) in [Central Asia](#) following border disputes between [Kyrgyzstan](#) and [Tajikistan](#).
 - The European Union approves the [EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement](#), governing the relationship between the [EU](#) and [UK](#) after [Brexit](#).
 - Protestors [rally](#) in major [Colombian](#) cities against increased taxes and healthcare reforms proposed by [President Iván Duque Márquez](#), resulting in police violence and the deaths of dozens of protestors, which is condemned by the [United Nations](#) and [Human Rights Watch](#).
- [April 29](#)
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases exceeds 150 million worldwide.
 - The [China National Space Administration](#) launches the first module of its [Tiangong space station](#), named [Tianhe](#), beginning a two-year effort to build the station in orbit.
- [April 30](#) – In Israel, 45 people are killed and another 150 injured in a [crowd crush](#) at a religious festival on [Mount Meron](#).

May

- [May 2](#) – The [SpaceX Crew-1](#) mission ends, returning four crew members of [Expedition 64](#) and [65](#) to [Earth](#) from the [International Space Station](#) aboard Crew Dragon [Resilience](#).
- [May 5](#) – [SpaceX](#) successfully flies, lands, and recovers a [Starship](#) prototype for the first time, after [four unsuccessful previous attempts](#).
- [May 7](#) – COVID-19 pandemic: The [World Health Organization](#) gives emergency use listing to the [Sinopharm BIBP COVID-19 vaccine](#), the first non-Western vaccine to be authorized.
- [May 11](#) – [2021 Israel-Palestine crisis](#): Israel hits the [Gaza Strip](#) with [airstrikes](#) as [Hamas](#) increases [rocket fire](#). This occurred after Israel began displacing [Palestinians](#) in the [Sheikh Jarrah](#) neighbourhood of [East Jerusalem](#).

- **May 14** – The **China National Space Administration** lands its *Zhurong* rover at **Utopia Planitia** on Mars, making China the fourth country to land a spacecraft on the planet and only the second to land a rover.
- **May 15** – Fighting between Israeli forces and Palestinian militants continues to escalate, as the death toll exceeds 150. An Israeli airstrike destroys a high-rise office building in **Gaza** occupied by **Associated Press**, **Al Jazeera**, and other media outlets.
- **May 17** – **Discovery, Inc.** agrees to buy **media conglomerate WarnerMedia** and all of its subsidiaries, from **AT&T** for US\$43 billion. The merger is set to be complete the following year.
- **May 18–22** – The **Eurovision Song Contest 2021** is held in **Rotterdam**, Netherlands, after the cancellation of the **2020 contest** due to the **COVID-19 pandemic**. The 2021 contest is won by **Italian** entrants **Måneskin** with the song "Zitti e buoni".
- **May 20** – Following international pressure, and nearly 250 deaths, Israel agrees to a ceasefire deal to end the conflict with **Gaza** militants, effective the next day at 2:00 AM **local time**.
- **May 23** – **Ryanair Flight 4978** is forced to land by **Belarusian** authorities to detain dissident journalist **Roman Protasevich**.
- **May 24** – A **coup d'état** in **Mali** removes interim President **Bah Ndaw** and the acting Prime Minister, **Moctar Ouane**, from power and restores **military** rule leading to the country being suspended from the **Economic Community of West African States** and the **African Union**, as well as France suspending its military operations in the country.
- **May 26**
 - **Shell** becomes the first company to be legally mandated to align its **carbon emissions** with the **Paris climate accord**, following a landmark court ruling in the Netherlands.
 - The **2021 Syrian presidential election** is held.
- **May 29** – **Chelsea** beats fellow English club **Manchester City** in the final 1–0 to win the **UEFA Champions League** for the second time.

June

- **June 1** – **COVID-19 pandemic**: The **World Health Organization** gives emergency use listing to the **Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine**, the second non-Western vaccine to be authorized.
- **June 2** – The **2021 Israeli presidential election** is held, and won by **Isaac Herzog**. In order to remove Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** from power, **Naftali Bennett** agrees to form a coalition with the Israeli opposition as a **rotation government** that will come to take effect after eleven days.
- **June 5** – The **G7** agrees on a global **minimum corporate tax rate** of 15% intended to prevent **tax avoidance** by some of the world's biggest multinationals.

- **June 7** – The *Juno* spacecraft performs its only flyby of **Jupiter's** moon **Ganymede**, the first flyby of the moon by any spacecraft in over 20 years.
- **June 9**
 - The **2021 Mongolian presidential election** is held.
 - The **Legislative Assembly of El Salvador** passes legislation to adopt **Bitcoin** as **legal tender** in the country, becoming the first country to adopt the cryptocurrency alongside the **U.S. dollar**.
- **June 10** – An **annular solar eclipse** is visible from **Canada**, **Greenland**, the **North Pole**, and the **Russian Far East**.
- **June 11 – July 11** – The **UEFA Euro 2020**, hosted by 11 different countries, is held, and is won by **Italy** after beating **England** on penalties.
- **June 11 – June 13** – World leaders meet at the **47th G7 summit**, hosted by the United Kingdom, with topics of discussion including the **COVID-19 pandemic**, **climate change**, and the corporate taxation of multinationals.
- **June 13 – July 10** – The **2021 Copa América**, hosted behind closed doors by **Brazil**, is held, and is won by **Argentina**.
- **June 13** – **Benjamin Netanyahu**, the longest-serving prime minister of **Israel**, is voted out of office; **Naftali Bennett** and **Yair Lapid** are sworn in as **Prime Minister of Israel** and as **Alternate Prime Minister of Israel**, respectively.
- **June 14** – COVID-19 pandemic: **Novavax** announces 90.4% overall efficacy in its Phase 3 U.S. and Mexico trial.
- **June 17** – The **China National Space Administration** sends its first three astronauts to occupy the **Tiangong Space Station**, the country's first space station.
- **June 20**
 - COVID-19 pandemic: **Brazil** becomes the second country to surpass half a million deaths from the virus.
 - **2021 Armenian parliamentary election**: Acting PM **Nikol Pashinyan** wins the country's snap election, with his **Civil Contract** party gaining 54% of the vote.
- **June 23 – 2021 ICC World Test Championship Final**: **New Zealand** wins the 2019–2021 ICC World Test Championship.
- **June 24** – **Surfside condominium collapse**: A portion of the **Champlain South Towers condominium** building collapses in **Surfside, Florida**, United States, leaving 98 people dead. One survivor was pulled from the wreckage while 35 others were evacuated from the uncollapsed section of the building.
- **June 28** – **Tigray War**: The **Tigray Defense Force** seizes the **Tigrayan** capital **Mekelle** shortly after the **Ethiopian** government declares a ceasefire.
- **June 29** – COVID-19 pandemic: The number of **vaccinations** administered worldwide exceeds 3 billion.

July

- **July 3** – Over 130 **wildfires**, fuelled by **lightning** strikes, burn through **Western Canada** following a record-breaking **heatwave in North America** that results in over 600 deaths.
- **July 5** – More than 1,000 Afghan soldiers flee to neighbouring **Tajikistan** after **clashing** with Taliban militants.
- **July 7** – **Assassination of Jovenel Moïse**: Haitian President **Jovenel Moïse** is shot to death at 1:00 am local time in his home. First Lady **Martine Moïse** is injured and hospitalized.
- **July 8** – **COVID-19 pandemic**: The number of deaths from COVID-19 surpasses 4 million.
- **July 10–August 1** – The **2021 CONCACAF Gold Cup** is held in, and is **won** by, the United States.
- **July 11**
 - Thousands of **Cubans**, most of them young, attend a rare **anti-government protest** in **San Antonio de los Baños** to protest the increased food and medicine shortages brought on by the **COVID-19 pandemic**.
 - **Moldova** holds a **parliamentary election**, with the **Party of Action and Solidarity (PAS)** obtaining a majority of seats.
 - **Bulgaria** holds a **parliamentary election**, with the party **There Is Such a People (ITN)** leading.
- **July 12** – **2021 European floods**: Heavy rain causes flooding in the border region of Germany and Belgium, resulting in 229 deaths, including 184 in Germany, 42 in Belgium with 1 person still missing there, and 2 in Romania. The event is attributed to a slowed **jetstream** caused by **climate change**.
- **July 13** – After the **Supreme Court** declares his incumbency unconstitutional, **KP Oli** is succeeded by **Sher Bahadur Deuba** as **43rd Prime Minister of Nepal**.
- **July 18** – An **international investigation** reveals that **spyware** sold by Israel's **NSO Group** to different governments is being used to target heads of state, along with thousands of activists, journalists and dissidents around the world.
- **July 19**
 - **Blue Origin** successfully conducts its **first human test flight**, with a reusable **New Shepard** rocket delivering four crew members into space: its founder **Jeff Bezos**, Bezos' brother Mark, 18-year-old **Oliver Daemen** (who becomes the youngest person to go into space), and 82-year-old aviator and **Mercury 13** member **Wally Funk** (who becomes the oldest person to go into space).
 - Leftist schoolteacher **Pedro Castillo** is confirmed as **President of Peru** over a month after the **2021 Peruvian general election**.

- Day of **Hajj**: Women are permitted to attend without a male guardian (*mehrem*) provided they go in a trustworthy group.
- **July 21** – The **International Olympic Committee** awards **Brisbane** the right to host the **2032 Summer Olympics**.
- **July 23–August 8** – The **2020 Summer Olympics** were held in **Tokyo**, Japan. They were originally scheduled for 24 July–9 August 2020, but were postponed due to the **COVID-19 pandemic**.
- **July 23** – The Court of Appeal of Samoa deemed the swearing-in of **Fiamē Naomi Mata'afa** and her government as constitutional, ending a **three-month constitutional crisis**.
- **July 25** – **Tunisian** president **Kais Saied** formally **takes power** in the country, suspending the **parliament** and sacking the **prime minister**.
- **July 28** – The first direct observation of **light** from behind a **black hole** is reported, confirming Einstein's theory of **general relativity**.
- **July 29**
 - **Roscosmos' Nauka** laboratory docks with the **International Space Station** following a protracted seventeen-year development and launch on 21 July. Hours after docking, a malfunction of its thrusters causes a temporary loss of control of the station, spinning it up to 45 degrees from its normal **orbital attitude**.
 - The oil tanker ***Mercer Street*** is attacked off the coast of **Oman**.

August

- **August 3**
 - The oil tanker ***Asphalt Princess*** is **hijacked** off the coast of the **United Arab Emirates**.
 - **Wildfires in Greece** begin.
- **August 4**
 - **2020 Summer Olympics**: Belarusian sprinter **Krystsina Tsimanouskaya** is given **political asylum** in Poland through a **humanitarian visa** after attempts by the **Belarus Olympic Committee** to **repatriate her against her will**.
 - **COVID-19 pandemic**: The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases surpasses 200 million worldwide.
- **August 5** – **Tigray War**: The **Tigray Defense Forces** seize the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** of **Lalibela**.
- **August 9** – The **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change** releases the first part of its **Sixth Assessment Report**, which concludes that the effects of human-caused **climate change** are now "widespread, rapid, and intensifying".
- **August 12** – The **2021 Zambian general election** is held.
- **August 14** – A **7.2-magnitude earthquake** strikes Haiti, killing more than 2,100 people.
- **August 15** – **2021 Taliban offensive**: The Taliban **capture Kabul**; the Afghan government surrenders to the Taliban.

- [August 24–September 5](#) – The [2020 Summer Paralympics](#) were held in [Tokyo](#), Japan. They were originally scheduled for 25 August–6 September 2020, but were postponed due to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- [August 26 – 2021 Kabul airport attack](#): At least 182 people are killed, including 13 U.S. service members, in a suicide bomb attack at Kabul airport.
- [August 27](#) – The United States launches an [airstrike](#) killing the [Islamic State](#) member who is believed to have planned the [Kabul airport bombings](#).
- [August 29](#) – [Hurricane Ida](#) strikes [New Orleans](#), Louisiana, USA.
- [August 30](#)
 - The [UN Environment Programme](#) announces that [leaded petrol](#) in road vehicles has been phased out globally, a hundred years after its introduction.
 - The United States withdraws its last remaining troops from [Hamid Karzai International Airport, Kabul](#), ending 20 years of [operations in Afghanistan](#).

September

- [September 1 – 2021 Romanian political crisis](#): [USR PLUS](#) boycotts a Romanian government meeting organized to approve the so-called [Anghel Saligny](#) investment program and threatens a motion of no confidence, starting a political crisis in the country.
- [September 5 – 2021 Guinean coup d'état](#): Guinea's President [Alpha Condé](#) is detained by an elite military unit led by a former French legionnaire, [Lt. Col. Mamady Doumbouya](#), claiming to have seized power.
- [September 7](#) – [El Salvador](#) becomes the first country in the world to accept [Bitcoin](#) as an official [currency](#).
- [September 13](#)
 - [Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob](#) and [Anwar Ibrahim](#), the leader of the main Malaysian opposition coalition [Pakatan Harapan](#), sign a [confidence and supply](#) agreement ending the [18-month political crisis](#) that has led to the fall of two successive governments in Malaysia.
 - The [2021 Norwegian parliamentary election](#) is held.
- [September 14](#)
 - [North Korea](#) demonstrates two short-range ballistic missiles that land just outside Japan's territorial waters; and then only hours later [South Korea](#) demonstrates its first submarine-launched ballistic missile.
 - The [inaugural season](#) of the [UEFA Europa Conference League](#), the third tier of [European club football](#), kicks off with Israeli club [Maccabi Tel Aviv](#) winning 4–1 against Armenian club [FC Alashkert](#).
- [September 15](#)
 - [AUKUS](#): A trilateral security pact between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States is formed, to counter the influence of China. This includes enabling Australia to build its first [nuclear-powered submarine](#) fleet.

- Several ministers of the Argentine president [Alberto Fernández](#)'s cabinet resign after the government's defeat in the primary elections, triggering a political crisis in the country.
- [September 16](#) – [Inspiration4](#) launched by [SpaceX](#) becomes the first all-civilian spaceflight, carrying a four-person crew on a three-day orbit of the Earth.
- [September 19](#) – The [2021 Russian legislative election](#) is held, with the [United Russia](#) party winning nearly 50% of the vote.
- [September 20](#) – The [2021 Canadian federal election](#) is held, with [Justin Trudeau](#) and the [Liberal Party](#) retaining a minority government.
- [September 25](#) – The [2021 Icelandic parliamentary election](#) is held.
- [September 26](#) – The [2021 German federal election](#) is held, with the [Social Democratic Party](#) beating out the [CDU/CSU](#) coalition.

October

- [October 1](#) – The [2020 World Expo](#) in [Dubai](#) begins. Its opening was originally scheduled for 20 October 2020 but was delayed due to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- [October 3](#) – The [International Consortium of Investigative Journalists](#) and assorted media partners publish a set of 11.9 million documents leaked from 14 financial services companies known as the [Pandora Papers](#), revealing offshore financial activities that involve multiple current and former world leaders.
- [October 4](#) – [Fumio Kishida](#) becomes the 100th [Prime Minister of Japan](#), succeeding [Yoshihide Suga](#).
- [October 5](#) – [Roscosmos](#) launches the [Soyuz MS-19](#) mission, which carries an [Expedition 66](#) crewmember and two [Channel One Russia](#) personnel to the [International Space Station](#). The two Channel One crew will perform [principal photography](#) on the film [VyzoV](#) aboard the station.
- [October 6–10](#) – The [2021 UEFA Nations League Finals](#) is held in Italy, and is won by [France](#). They were originally scheduled for 2–6 June 2021, but were moved following the rescheduling of [UEFA Euro 2020](#) to June and July 2021 due to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- [October 6](#) – The [World Health Organization](#) endorses the first [malaria vaccine](#).
- [October 8–9](#) – The [2021 Czech legislative election](#) is held, with the main opposition coalition alliance of [SPOLU](#) and [Pirates and Mayors](#) gaining a legislative majority.
- [October 9](#) – [Sebastian Kurz](#) announces his resignation as [Chancellor of Austria](#) as a result of a [corruption probe](#) launched against him.
- [October 16](#) – The [Lucy spacecraft](#) is launched by NASA, the first mission to explore the [Trojan asteroids](#).
- [October 17](#) – [November 14](#) – The [2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup](#) is held in the [United Arab Emirates](#) and [Oman](#), and is won by [Australia](#).

- **October 23** – Colombia's most wanted drug lord, **Dario Antonio Úsuga**, whose **Gulf Clan** controls many smuggling routes into the US and other countries, is captured by Colombia's armed forces.
- **October 24** – The **2021 Uzbek presidential election** is held.
- **October 25** – The **Sudanese military** launches a **coup** against the **government**. Prime Minister **Abdalla Hamdok** is placed under house arrest. President **Abdel Fattah al-Burhan** declares a state of emergency and announces the dissolution of the government.
- **October 31**
 - The **2021 Japanese general election** is held, with **Fumio Kishida** and the **Liberal Democratic Party** along with its coalition partner **Komeito** retaining a majority government.
 - **October 31 – November 13** – The **2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference** is held, after being postponed in 2020 due to **COVID-19**.^[224] A deal is agreed by world leaders, which includes a "phasedown" of unabated **coal power**, a 30% cut in **methane emissions** by 2030, plans for a halt to **deforestation** by 2030, and increased financial support for developing countries.

November

- **November 1** – **COVID-19 pandemic**: The number of recorded deaths from COVID-19 surpasses 5 million.
- **November 3** – **COVID-19 pandemic**: The **World Health Organization** gives emergency use listing to the **Covaxin COVID-19 vaccine**, the third non-Western vaccine to be authorized.
- **November 11** – **SpaceX** launches the **Crew-3** mission, carrying four **Expedition 66** crew members to the **International Space Station**.
- **November 14**
 - Unprecedented rain caused by an **atmospheric river** bring a series of **floods** to the **Pacific Northwest**.
 - The **2021 Argentine legislative election** is held.
 - The **2021 Bulgarian general election** is held.
- **November 16** – Russia draws international condemnation following an **anti-satellite weapon** test that creates a cloud of **space debris**, threatening the **International Space Station**.
- **November 21** – The **2021 Chilean general election** is held.
- **November 23** – A bus crashes in **Pernik Province, Bulgaria**, killing 46 **North Macedonian tourists** returning from Istanbul.
- **November 24**
 - NASA launches the **Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART)**, the first attempt to deflect an **asteroid** for the purpose of learning how to protect Earth.
 - **Magdalena Andersson** resigns as **Prime Minister-elect** of Sweden hours after the **Riksdag** voted her in as Sweden's first female Prime Minister. She

was due to take office on 26 November. Instead, she takes office on 30 November.

- **November 25** – COVID-19 pandemic: The **United Kingdom** becomes the fourth country to surpass 10 million COVID-19 cases after the **United States**, **India** and **Brazil**.
- **November 26** – COVID-19 pandemic: The **World Health Organization** convenes an emergency meeting in **Geneva** amid concerns over **Omicron**, a highly mutated **variant of COVID-19** first identified in **South Africa** that appears more infectious than **Delta**.
- **November 30**
 - **Barbados** becomes a **republic** on its 55th anniversary of independence while remaining a member of the **Commonwealth of Nations**.
 - **November 30 – December 18** – The **2021 FIFA Arab Cup** is held in **Qatar**, and is won by **Algeria**.

December

- **December 6**
 - The **United States** announces a diplomatic boycott of the **2022 Winter Olympics** in **Beijing** in response to China's human rights record. **Canada**, the **United Kingdom**, and **Australia** join shortly after.
 - COVID-19 pandemic: The **United States** becomes the first country to surpass 50 million COVID-19 cases.
- **December 9**
 - A **truck crash** in **Chiapas, Mexico**, kills 55 migrants who were being **smuggled** in it from **Guatemala** through Mexico to **its border with the United States**.
 - **December 9–10** – The **Summit for Democracy**, a virtual summit, is hosted by the **United States** "to renew democracy at home and confront autocracies abroad".
- **December 12**
 - The **2021 New Caledonian independence referendum** is held.
 - COVID-19 pandemic: **Russia** becomes the fifth country to surpass 10 million COVID-19 cases after the **United States**, **India**, **Brazil** and the **United Kingdom**.
- **December 17** – COVID-19 pandemic: The **World Health Organization** gives emergency use listing to the **Novavax COVID-19 vaccine**.
- **December 19**
 - The **2021 Hong Kong legislative election**, originally scheduled for 6 September 2020 but postponed due to the **COVID-19 pandemic**, is held.
 - The second round of the **2021 Chilean presidential election** is held; leftist candidate **Gabriel Boric** is elected **President**.
- **December 25** – **NASA**, **ESA**, the **Canadian Space Agency** and the **Space Telescope Science Institute** launch the **James Webb Space Telescope**, the successor of the **Hubble Space Telescope**.