Happening this month…

**Sunday 6th December**  
 Presidential election in Venezuela  
 Venezuelans go to the polls amid a deepening economic crisis. A chronic shortage of basic products and high inflation have led to widespread discontent.

**Thursday 10th December**  
 Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony, Oslo  
 The Nobel Peace Prize 2015 was awarded to the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet for its decisive contribution to the building of a pluralistic democracy in Tunisia in the wake of the Jasmine Revolution of 2011.

**Saturday 12th December**  
 The cremated remains of novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez will be exhibited in the Colombian city of Cartagena, where he began his writing career. The Nobel prize-winning author died in 2014 at the age of 87.

**Saturday 12th December**  
 UEFA Euro 2016 Draw, Paris  
 The UEFA Euro 2016 Finals draw takes place at 1800 CET in Paris. Hosts France are automatically assigned as team A1. Spain are the reigning European champions.

**Sunday 13th December**  
 Regional elections in France  
 Centre-right Les Republicains party, led by former president Nicolas Sarkozy, is expected to win a majority of regions. Far-right leader Marine Le Pen is set to win control of France’s northernmost area.

**Tuesday 15th December**  
 First anniversary of Lindt café siege, Sydney  
 A public ceremony will be held to commemorate the tragic event in which café manager Tori Johnson and customer Katrina Dawson lost their lives. The siege began at 9.44am on December 15th 2014 and ended 16 hours later.

All the information included in this document is correct at the time of publication (29th October 2015), but is subject to amendment.
**Thursday 17th December**
Worldwide release of ‘Star Wars – The Force Awakens’
‘Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens’ is a continuation of the saga created by George Lucas. The film is set thirty years after ‘Return of the Jedi’. Advance ticket sales on both sides of the Atlantic suggest it may be the highest-grossing film of all time.

**Sunday 20th December**
General election in Spain
Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has an absolute majority in parliament with his conservative Popular Party but polls suggest support for the opposition Socialist Party is running close behind. Emerging political force Ciudadanos (Citizens) stands a good chance of breaking Spain’s two-party system.

**Thursday 24th and Friday 25th December**
Christmas celebrations around the world

**Sunday 27th December**
Presidential election in Haiti
President Michel Martelly’s chosen candidate Jovenel Moïse is expected to run-off against Jude Celestin, a Swiss-educated mechanical engineer. Haiti is the poorest nation in the Americas. Since it was devastated by an earthquake in 2010, Haiti has relied largely on international donations and foreign aid.

**Thursday 31st December**
New Year’s Eve celebrations around the world

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ANAHEIM, CA - AUGUST 15: Director J.J. Abrams (L) and actor Harrison Ford of STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS took part in 'Worlds, Galaxies, and Universes: Live Action at The Walt Disney Studios' presentation at Disney's D23 EXPO 2015 in Anaheim, Calif. (Photo by Jesse Grant/Getty Images for Disney)