

Programme Information Highlights

March 2018



Happening this month...

Sunday 4th March

General Election, Italy

Italians will go to the polls to elect the 630 members of the Chamber of Deputies and the 315 elective members of the Senate of the Republic in an election which may see Silvio Berlusconi make his political comeback.

Sunday 4th March

90th Academy Awards, Los Angeles, USA

The Oscars ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), will honour the best films of 2017 and take place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California. Jimmy Kimmel will return as host for a second consecutive year.

Monday 5th March

5th anniversary of death of Hugo Chavez

Venezuela is expected to mark the fifth anniversary of the death of Hugo Chavez, who served as president for 14 years before his death from cancer.

Thursday 8th March

International Women's Day

Day commemorating the movement for women's rights which dates back to 1911 - although it has its roots in National Women's Day which was held in New York in 1909. It's a national holiday in countries including Afghanistan, Russia and Vietnam.



Thousands of demonstrators attend a rally for International Women's Day on March 8, 2017 in Melbourne, Australia. (Photo by Daniel Pockett/Getty Images)

Friday 9th - Sunday 18th March

South By Southwest, Texas, USA

Festival, known as SXSW which celebrates the convergence of the interactive, film and music industries, held in Austin, Texas. More than 100 music acts are expected to perform and more than 100 films and TV shows will be shown.

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Tuesday 13th - Thursday 15th March

World Economic Forum on Latin America

Around 750 global and regional leaders from government, business and civil society will meet in Sao Paulo, Brazil. It is aiming to help shape a new narrative at a decisive time for Latin America, where an intense electoral cycle over the next two years promises far-reaching political and socio-economic impacts.

Thursday 15th March

15th anniversary of Iraq War

It's 15 years since the invasion of Iraq by a US-led coalition of allies including the UK, which overthrew the government of Saddam Hussein. The decision to go to war was partly based on intelligence that suggested Iraq had weapons of mass destruction which could be used imminently - which was later found to be false.

Sunday 18th March

Presidential election, Russia

Current president, Vladimir Putin, is seeking re-election for a second consecutive term and fourth term overall in the election. A win would see Putin extend his rule over Russia until 2024.

Saturday 24th March

WWF Earth Hour

At 8.30pm local time around the globe, millions of people, businesses, and landmarks will switch off their lights and raise awareness for climate change action.



The skyline after building lights were switched off for the Earth Hour environmental campaign in Hong Kong on March 25, 2017. (Photo by ANTHONY WALLACE/AFP/Getty Images)

Monday 26th - Wednesday 28th March

Presidential election, Egypt

President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi has announced he will run for a second and final term. He is expected to face just one opposition candidate, Mortada Mansour.