

Programme Information Highlights

May 2018

Happening this month...

Sunday 6th May

Lebanon elections

Lebanon due to hold its first legislative election in nearly a decade, potentially transforming the politics of the country.

Tuesday 8th - Saturday 19th May

Cannes Film Festival

Australian actress Cate Blanchett has been named as the President of the Jury for the 71st Cannes Film Festival. The highest award given at the festival is the Palme d'Or which is one of the most prestigious awards in the film industry.

Saturday 12th May

Iraq elections

Parliamentary elections are due to take place which will decide the 329 members of the Council of Representatives who will in turn elect the Iraqi President and Prime Minister.

Saturday 12th May

Eurovision Song Contest, Lisbon

Portugal is hosting the annual competition for the first time ever after their win last year with 'Amar pelos dois' performed by Salvador Sobral. This year, 43 countries are taking part.



Director Ruben Ostlund, who won the Palme d'Or for the movie 'The Square' attends the Palme D'Or winner photocall during the 70th annual Cannes Film Festival at Palais des Festivals on May 28, 2017 in Cannes, France. (Photo by Neilson Barnard/Getty Images)

Monday 14th May

70th anniversary of Israel's Declaration of Independence

On 14th May, 1948, it was proclaimed that a Jewish state would be established in Eretz-Israel at midnight that day. The event is celebrated annually in Israel with a national holiday.

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Tuesday 15th May

Nakba Day, Palestine

Meaning 'Day of the Catastrophe', Nakba Day is marked the day after Israeli celebrates its independence day. It was inaugurated by Yasser Arafat in 1998 to commemorate displacement following Israel's Declaration of Independence in 1948.

Saturday 19th May

Royal wedding, UK

Prince Harry will marry American former actress Meghan Markle at St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle at midday. The couple announced their engagement in November 2017. Few details are known about the wedding, although the wedding cake will be made by pastry chef and food writer Claire Ptak who owns a bakery in east London.

Sunday 20th May

Venezuela elections

A snap presidential election, which was brought forward from December before being postponed, is due to be held. President Nicolas Maduro has registered to run for a second six-year term. The main opposition Democratic Unity coalition has announced it will boycott the vote, claiming it is fraudulent.

Tuesday 22nd May

First anniversary of Manchester Arena bombing

One year since 22 people died and 500 were injured when a suicide bomber detonated a device after an Ariana Grande concert. The youngest victim was an 8-year-old girl. Salman Ramadan Abedi, described as an Islamist extremist, is believed to have carried out the attack alone.



Prince Harry and actress Meghan Markle during an official photocall to announce their engagement at The Sunken Gardens at Kensington Palace on November 27, 2017 in London, England (Photo by Chris Jackson/Chris Jackson/Getty Images)

Saturday 26th May

UEFA Champions League final

The NSC Olimpiyskiy Stadium in Kiev, Ukraine, will host this year's Champions League final. Real Madrid are the defending champions.

Sunday 27th May - Sunday 10th June

French Open Tennis, Paris

The second of four annual Grand Slam tennis tournaments and the only one to be played on clay.