

FROM THE 23rd TO THE 29th OF MAY 2016

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY 23rd

Istanbul, Turkey.- World Humanitarian Summit begins (through May 24). The global event intends to serve as a wake-up call for action in the service of common humanity, providing a launch pad for new initiatives. More than 125 Heads of State and Government are expected to join representatives from the UN community, civil society, the private sector, academia, and other participants.

Geneva, Switzerland.- The 60th World Health Assembly, in which the 194 member states of the World Health Organization (WHO) participate, starts. Advances in global health, new targets to benefit the world's population and monitoring the global response to Ebola and zika will be addressed.

Hanoi, Vietnam.- President Obama visit the country, making him the third sitting president to visit the nation since the end of the Vietnam War. During his three-day visit to the country, he is slated to push for the approval of the 12-nation trans-Pacific trade agreement that is currently stalled in U.S. Congress.

Tokyo, Japan.- Working visit of Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau. He will hold an audience with Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko and a private meeting with his Japanese counterpart to reaffirm the growing ties between both countries.

TUESDAY 24th

U.S.- Republican presidential caucus in Washington and primaries for the federal congress in Georgia.

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Hanoi / Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam.- President Barack Obama delivers a speech at the National Convention Center Hanoi and then visit Ho Chi Minh, former Saigon.

Helsinki, Finland.- The Technology Academy Finland announces the winner of 2016 Millennium Prize, considered the “Nobel” of technology.

WEDNESDAY 25th

Washington DC, U.S.- Four experts from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (CIDH) investigating the disappearance of 43 students Iguala (Mexico) in 2014 explain their main findings in the Wilson Center .

Lebanon.- The country makes two years without a president.

THURSDAY 26th

Ise Shima, Japan.- G7 Summit (United Kingdom, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United States and the European Union), which will focus on ways to boost coordinated action toward promoting global economic growth and ways to address terrorist threats (through May 27).

Tokyo, Japan.- Press Conference of the Organizing Committee for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

FRIDAY 27th

Hiroshima, Japan.- President Obama, makes a controversial and historic visit to one of the points of greatest conflict in the past century, becoming the first US president to visit the Japanese city that was destroyed by a nuclear bomb “Little Boy”. The White House has made clear that the president will not ask for forgiveness nor will question the decision Harry Truman had to face.

Athens, Greece.- Russian President Vladimir Putin makes a two-day visit with a delegation of Russian businessmen for projects in the field of energy, infrastructure and agriculture to meet with Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras.

SUNDAY 29th

UN.- International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers.

Lima, Peru.- Peruvian presidential candidates, Keiko Fujimori and Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, hold their second and last debate on government plans before the runoff election on June 5th.

Verdun, France.- French President Francois Hollande and German Chancellor Angela Merkel participate in the commemoration of the centenary of the Battle of Verdun. This was the longest battle of World War I and was popularized by the famous “Shall not pass!” said by the French commander Robert Nivelle.

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Sources: EFE; European Union's news center; Council of Foreign Relations; UN's news center; OECD; World Bank; capitolhearings.com; electionguide.org, website of the US Senate, The Economist, Monocle, Bloomberg, WOLA, American States Organisation; The New York Times, CNN, BBC and others.

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