

2007

January

1 January

Slovenia is the first of the ten new member states to join the Eurozone, with the euro becoming the national currency.

4 January

Following an invitation from Prime Minister Janez Janša, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States Amr Moussa arrives on his first working visit to Slovenia.

9 January

The Italian Foreign Minister Massimo D'Alema begins a two-day official visit to Slovenia.

10 January

Marija Lukačič resigns as Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food.

12 January

European Commission issues a report on the introduction of the euro in Slovenia, establishing that the Slovenia successfully completed the changeover.

12 January

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel travels to Belgrade, to meet his counterpart and host Vuk Drašković and Prime Minister of Serbia Vojislav Koštunica.

15 January

A celebration marking Slovenia's adoption of the euro is held in Ljubljana: in attendance are senior officials from several EU member states, including Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany, the presiding EU member state, and senior EU officials headed by EC President, José Manuel Barroso.

Against the backdrop of the celebration, Prime Minister Janez Janša holds separate talks with Prime Minister of Hungary Ferenc Gyurcsány, and Greek

Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis. Slovakian Prime Minister Robert Fico arrives on a working visit.

19 January

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel travels to Macedonia on an official visit.

23 January

After examining the first Slovenian Stability Programme for the period 2006-2009, European Commission states that Slovenia's economy has been "remarkably stable" in the past decade.

24 January

Prime Minister Janez Janša hosts the traditional reception for foreign ambassadors to Slovenia.

25 January

In his speech at the international conference on aid to Lebanon, held in Paris, Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel announces Slovenia's contribution of 100,000 euros.

31 January

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel meets his Belgian counterpart Karel De Gucht.

February

1 February

At an informal meeting in Malta foreign ministers of Mediterranean EU member states discuss illegal immigration, the Constitutional Treaty and the Middle East.

13 February

A meeting of the EU Caucasus-Caspian Commission, presided by the Slovenian Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, is held in Brussels.

16 February

Government approves draft key Programme Documents, which enable Slovenia to draw about EUR4.2 billion for cohesion projects in 2007–2013.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus Yiorgos Lilikas pays an official visit to Slovenia, and meets Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, President Janez Drnovšek and President of the National Assembly France Cukjati.

19 February

Prime Minister Janez Janša pays a one-day visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

20 February

Prime Minister Janez Janša meets representatives of the Hungarian minority in Prekmurje.

21 February

The Government visits Pomurje.

22 February

Delegation of the European Space Agency visits Slovenia.

At the ninth meeting of Regional Partnership countries, foreign ministers including Dimitrij Rupel, discuss the possibilities to speed up bringing the Western Balkans closer to the EU.

26 February

Speaker of the Parliament of Finland Paavo Lipponen pays an official visit to Slovenia, where he meets President of the National Assembly France Cukjati, Prime Minister Janez Janša and President Janez Drnovšek.

27 February

Prime Minister Janez Janša begins a two-day visit to Macedonia. Prior to the visit, the countries signed four agreements, including on inter-state adoptions and employment of seasonal workers.

28 February

Minister of Finance Andrej Bajuk meets José Ángel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD, and expresses Slovenia's interest to join OECD as soon as possible.

March

2 March

Minister of the Economy Andrej Vizjak and representative of Koks group of Russian companies Evgeny B. Zubitsky sign an agreement on the sale of a 55.35% state share in the Slovenian Steel Group.

5 March

Regular annual IMF Mission arrives in Slovenia.

6 March

The National Assembly elects Iztok Jarc new Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, and Žiga Turk Minister without Portfolio and Head of the Government Office for Growth.

7 March

In an amendment to the Report on Croatia's 2006 Progress, rapporteur of the European Parliament Hannes Swoboda calls on Slovenia and Croatia to consider international arbitration in resolving all border issues.

8 March

Against the backdrop of the Brussels EU Summit, Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Janša does not rule out the possibility of resolving the border dispute with Croatia by arbitration.

9 March

Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs visits Slovenia and meets Economic Minister Andrej Vizjak.

13 March

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel attends the 4th Human Rights Council in Geneva, and announces Slovenia's candidature to the Council for the period 2007-2010.

14 March

Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki visits Slovenia and meets President Janez Drnovšek, Prime Minister Janez Janša and Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel.

16 March

A new international border crossing Starod on Slovenian-Croatian border is opened.

19 March

Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning Janez Podobnik meets Secretary-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Mohamed El Baradei.

20 March

Government begins a two-day visit to Slovenian Istria and Karst.

21 March

In Portorož, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology Jure Zupan and Mayor of Piran Tomaž Gantar sign a Letter of Intent on establishing the Mediterranean University.

25 March

Prime Minister Janez Janša attends the ceremony celebrating 50 years of the Treaty of Rome in Berlin.

26 March

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, Slovenia and other Eurozone members decide to issue €2 commemorative coins.

27 March

National Assembly passes the Declaration on the Orientations Regarding the Activities of the Republic of Slovenia within EU institutions from January 2007 to June 2008.

28 March

Prime Minister Janez Janša visits the Netherlands and meets his Dutch counterpart Jan Peter Balkenende.

29 March

Government approves draft National Border Control Act to provide for comprehensive surveillance and transposition of Schengen provisions into the national law.

April

3 April

Minister of the Economy Andrej Vizjak, competent ministers from Croatia, Serbia, Romania and Italy, and the EU Energy Commissioner sign a declaration on the Pan-European Oil Pipeline from Costanta to Trieste.

Christoph Keckeis, Commander of the Swiss Armed Forces, pays an official visit to Slovenia.

6 April

Prime Minister Janez Janša convenes a coordinating meeting of parliamentary parties to discuss the issue of the 'erased' and regionalisation. The leaders agree that there is no need to adopt a resolution on the border with Croatia.

11 April

Within the second round of regional visits the Government delegation, headed by Prime Minister Janez Janša, visits Podravje.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) publishes a report on global economy, placing Slovenia among developed economies for the first time.

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel travels to Argentina and begins his tour of Latin America.

18 April

Prime Minister of Moldova Vasile Tarlev pays a one-day working visit to Slovenia.

20 April

At a meeting of EU interior ministers Dragutin Mate confirms that preparations to set up an alternative Schengen Information System in Slovenia are proceeding according to plan.

A new international border crossing in accordance with Schengen standards for external border protection is opened in Središče ob Dravi.

23 April

Prime Minister Janez Janša begins a two-day official visit to Greece. He is accompanied by Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, Economic Minister Andrej Vizjak, and a 70- strong business delegation.

International commission recommends Maribor and partner towns for the European Capital of Culture 2012 to the Minister of Culture Vasko Simoniti.

Transport and Finance Ministers Janez Božič and Andrej Bajuk meet the management board of Deutsche Bahn in Berlin.

24 April

Defence Minister Karl Erjavec begins a three-day visit to Turkey.

Janez Podobnik, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, attends an EU and Asian (ASEM) environment ministers meeting in Copenhagen.

25 April

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel begins a two-day working visit to the UK.

26 April

Jure Zupan, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, and Andrej Vizjak, Minister of the Economy, attend an informal Competitiveness Council meeting in Würzburg.

27 April

Main state celebration on the occasion of the Day of Uprising against the Occupation is held at Rogla with Prime Minister Janša as the honorary speaker.

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel attends an informal meeting of NATO foreign ministers in Oslo.

May

1 May

Third anniversary of Slovenia's accession to the EU.

4 May

European Commission presents a report on the introduction of the euro in Slovenia, stressing that it was successful, in some aspects even more than in other members in 2002.

7 May

Constituent meeting of the Committee on Status and Legal Issues Affecting Slovenian National Minorities in Neighbouring Countries, part of the Council for Slovenes Abroad.

10 May

President Janez Drnovšek expresses satisfaction over the progress made in the Slovenian Armed Forces, evident from the report presented by Defence Minister Karl Erjavec and Chief of General Staff of the SAF, Lieutenant General Albin Gutman.

11 May

Prime Minister Janez Janša attends the Meeting of Heads of State and Government of the South East European Co-operation Process (SEECP) in Zagreb.

12 May

Prime Minister Janez Janša attends an informal meeting with German and Portuguese counterparts, EC President and President of the EP in Sintra.

14 May

Prime Minister Janša pays an official visit to Poland and meets his Polish counterpart Jaroslaw Kaczynski and other Polish officials in Warsaw to discuss European issues, while Economic Minister Andrej Vizjak and a 40-strong business delegation attend a Slovenian-Polish business conference.

Nineteen EU defence ministers, including Karl Erjavec, and Norway sign an agreement on defence, research and technology joint investment programme on force protection.

16 May

At the ministerial meeting of OECD in Paris Slovenia is invited to join OECD.

17 May

Annual Bank Conference on Development Economies (ABCDE), co-organised by Slovenia and the World Bank, begins at Bled.

Against the backdrop of Human Security Network ministerial meeting Minister of Foreign Affairs Dimitrij Rupel meets his Costa Rican counterpart Bruno Stagno Ugarte.

Prime Minister Janez Janša and Austrian Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer express optimism about resolving the issue of bilingual topography in Austrian Carinthia.

22 May

Open Day at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Slovenian Diplomacy Day to mark the 15th anniversary of Slovenia's joining the UN.

23 May

The Government team begin a working visit to Savinjsko-šaleška region and visit major institutions and companies in the region.

29 May

Foreign minister Dimitrij Rupel takes part at the Asia-Europe Foreign Ministers Meeting in Hamburg, stressing the significance of inter-cultural dialogue.

Prime Minister Janez Janša and President of the National Assembly France Cukjati separately meet the US Senator of Slovenian descent George Voinovich to exchange views on current international issues.

31 May

Czech Foreign Minister Karl Schwarzenberg visits Slovenia and meets Slovenian officials, including Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, mainly to discuss the future of the European Constitution.

June

1 June

Zagreb hosts the first meeting of the signatories to the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin, which is attended by Economic Minister Andrej Vizjak. Caucasus-Caspian Commission concludes a two-day meeting at Jable Castle.

4 June

At the end of a two-day official visit to Slovakia, Prime Minister Janez Janša meets Slovakian President Ivan Gašparovič and Speaker of the Slovakian National Council Pavol Paška.

5 June

Prime Minister Janez Janša and his Swedish counterpart Fredrik Reinfeld hold talks, agreeing that compromise needs to be found with regard to the EU Constitutional Treaty.

8 June

In Q1 Slovenia records 7.2% annual growth, the biggest since Q2 of 1999.

12 June

According to US State Department Report on Trafficking in Persons, Slovenia ranks among countries with high anti-trafficking standards.

13 June

The Government visits Dolenjska and Bela krajina.

14 June

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel meets US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and later National Security Advisor Stephen Handley in the White House. Institute for Macroeconomic Analysis and Development (IMAD) and representatives of the Conference on Medium Term Economic Assessment (C.M.T.E.A.) hold a two-day conference on the implementation of the EU Growth and Jobs Strategy.

15 June

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel meets UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

19 June

Slovenia begins its three-year membership in UN Human Rights Council.

24 June

Main state celebration marking the Statehood Day takes place in the Republic Square in Ljubljana, with Prime Minister Janez Janša as the keynote speaker.

25 June

Minister of the Interior Dragutin Mate attends a meeting of the High-level Group on the Future of European Home Affairs Policy after 2010 in Brussels.

26 June

On a two-day visit to the Ukraine, Prime Minister Janez Janša meets separately with Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych and President Viktor Yushchenko.

29 June

Representatives of the Government, employers and employees sign an agreement on the amendments to the Employment Relations Act.

July

2 July

In the light of preparations for Slovenia's EU Presidency, Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel pays an official visit to Cyprus.

4 July

Government and trade unions end negotiations on the collective salary agreement for the public sector.

As Prime Minister of the next country to preside over the EU, Janez Janša attends the first EU-Brazil Summit in Lisbon.

5 July

An informal meeting of the foreign ministers of the Mediterranean EU member states begins in Portorož.

6 July

Against the backdrop of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Mediterranean EU member states, Prime Minister Janez Janša meets French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner in Ljubljana.

9 July

Prime Minister Janez Janša opens the expanded passenger terminal facilities at the central Slovenian airport, officially renamed Jože Pučnik Airport.

10 July

At the beginning of the Government's visit to Savinjska region, Prime Minister Janez Janša lays the foundation stone for a new production unit of KIV company.

12 July

Interior Minister Dragutin Mate attends a two-day ministerial conference of the Salzburg Forum in Innsbruck.

13 July

Prime Minister Janez Janša meets João Vale de Almeida, Head of the Cabinet of the President of the European Commission, and Catherine Day, Secretary-General of the European Commission, to discuss Slovenia's preparations for the Presidency of the EU.

17 July

Transport Minister Janez Božič and Italian Infrastructure Minister Antonio di Pietro sign a memorandum of understanding on the construction of a railway section between Trieste and Divača in Rome.

23 July

Against the backdrop of a GAERC meeting, Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel and his Cypriot counterpart Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis sign a memorandum of cooperation.

29 July

The ceremony commemorating the 91st anniversary of the Russian Chapel is held below the Vršič mountain pass and attended by the Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel and Lyubov Sliska, Vice-Speaker of the Russian Duma.

30 July

Prime Minister Janez Janša states that the Government has been extremely active in meeting the goals of Slovenia's Development Strategy, and even surpassed them in the first half of 2007.

August

17 August

After holding talks with the Prime Minister, leaders of parliamentary parties support the Government in seeking solutions to the key outstanding issues with Croatia.

Janez Podobnik, Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning, is the keynote speaker at the ceremony on the occasion of the Unification of the Slovenes of Prekmurje with the Homeland in Murska Sobota.

A 160-strong contingent from the 10th Motorised Battalion of the Slovenian Armed Forces leaves on a KFOR peacekeeping mission to Kosovo.

25 August

Prime Minister Janez Janša and his Lithuanian counterpart Gediminas Kirkilas discuss European issues and agree on close cooperation, particularly during Slovenian Presidency of the EU.

26 August

Against the backdrop of the Bled Strategic Forum, Prime Minister Janez Janša and his Croatian counterpart Ivo Sanader discuss bilateral issues and agree in

principle to resolve the outstanding border issues with regard to the disputed parts of the border before the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

30 August

Minister of Health Andrej Bručan (SDS), Minister of Transport Janez Božič (SLS), and Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology Jure Zupan (NSi) hand in their resignations.

The Government relieves Matjaž Šinkovec of his duties as the Director of the Slovene Intelligence and Security Agency (SOVA) and appoints him State Secretary in the Office of Prime Minister. As of 14 September 2007 the new SOVA Director is Andrej Rupnik, current head of the International Relations Division of the General Police Directorate.

31 August

After meeting Finance Minister Andrej Bajuk, Joaquín Almunia, Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs, "welcomes and commends Slovenia's work programme" for Slovenia's EU Presidency in the relevant areas.

September

3 September

Leaders of four coalition parties, Janez Janša, Andrej Bajuk, Janez Podobnik and Karl Erjavec, express support to the decentralisation project, and confirm the number of regions at 14, as originally proposed by the Government.

10 September

On the last day of his official visit to Slovenia, Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi meets Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Janša.

In Brussels, Slovenian Ambassadors begin a two-day session about Slovenia's EU Presidency in the first half of 2008.

11 September

Zofija Mazej Kukovič is elected new Minister of Health, and Radovan Žerjav new Minister of Transport

Italian President Giorgio Napolitano signs a decree laying down 32 municipalities in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region where the Regulations for the Protection of the Slovene Linguistic Minority of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region (Protection Regulations) will be implemented.

15 September

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel is keynote speaker at the state celebration marking the Restoration of the Primorska Region to the Motherland.

16 September

In Vienna, Slovenia and ten other invited countries sign the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership Statement of Principles aimed at expanding nuclear power used for civilian purposes.

European Commissioner for Multilingualism Leonard Orban begins his first official visit to Slovenia. The focus is on Slovenia's EU Presidency and the Ministerial Conference on Multilingualism, the main joint project of Slovenia and the European Commission during the Presidency.

17 September

Prime Minister Janez Janša and representatives of parliamentary parties agree that before taking any further steps towards resolving the border dispute with Croatia, the Government will obtain opinions about the possibilities of referring the dispute to the International Court of Justice in The Hague from a newly-established coordination group of international legal experts headed by Miha Pogačnik, and two new commissions appointed by the Government.

HRH Prince Andrew, The Duke of York, arrives on a two-day visit to Slovenia and meets Prime Minister Janez Janša and President Janez Drnovšek.

In The Hague, Minister of the Interior Dragutin Mate and Director-General of the Slovenian Police Jože Romšek meet Director of Europol Max-Peter Ratzel.

18 September

In Brussels, EU ministers of home affairs decide that after the enlargement of the Schengen Area, Croatian citizens will be allowed to enter Slovenia, Italy and Hungary with their IDs and special papers with their personal details that will need to be stamped for every entry and exit.

19 September

Government begins a two-day working visit to Gorenjska, examines the aftermath of the storm that raged across Slovenia on 18 September, and decides to allocate EUR500,000 for relief and to cover the costs of intervention teams. The Government also decides to provide funds for a full restoration of the damaged Franja Partisan Hospital.

21 September

Slovenia mourns all who died in the storm on 18 September.

24 September

Prime Minister Janša and leaders of over 80 countries attend the largest meeting of world leaders on climate change, stressing that the devastating storm in Slovenia shows that no part of the planet is safe from the negative consequences of climate change.

25 September

Prime Minister Janša attends the opening of the General Debate of the 62nd Session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

27 September

Prime Minister Janša meets UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

29 September

The Government approves draft amendments to 2008 budget and draft 2009 budget.

October

1 October

National Assembly appoints Mojca Kucler Dolinar the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology.

2 October

Representatives of employers, employees and the Government sign the Social Agreement for the period 2007-2009.

2 October

Dutch Royal couple, Prince Willem-Alexander and Princess Máxima, arrive on a visit to Slovenia.

17 October

Slovenian and Hungarian Governments meet in Lendava and Monošter at the first working meeting.

21 October

Lojze Peterle and Danilo Türk make it into the second leg of presidential elections.

23 October

Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg arrives on an official visit to Slovenia to meet Slovenia's President Janez Drnovšek, President of the National Assembly, France Cukjati, and Prime Minister Janez Janša.

23 October

Foreign minister Dimitrij Rupel is on an official visit to Switzerland, where he meets Swiss foreign minister, Micheline Calmy-Rey, whom he presents Slovenia's priorities for the EU Presidency.

26 October

Jean Lemierre, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, visits Slovenia and meets finance minister Andrej Bajuk, and foreign minister Dimitrij Rupel.

30 October

Main state celebration on the occasion of Reformation Day (31 October) is held in Cankarjev dom, with Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Mojca Kucler Dolinar, as keynote speaker.

November**5 November**

Slovenian and Austrian home ministers, Dragutin Mate and Günther Platter, meet at Šentilj border crossing to discuss police cooperation between the countries after Slovenia's accession to the Schengen area.

6 November

Prime Minister Janez Janša meets President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, in Brussels.

7 November

Prime Minister Janez Janša travels on a four-day official visit to China following an invitation by the Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao.

11 November

Danilo Türk is elected third President of Slovenia after receiving over two thirds of all votes in the run-off presidential elections.