# **CLOBAL HORIZONS** Acommunications platform for MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division

# **Celebrating Women's History Month, 2022**

## The World's First Computer Programmer



Ada Lovelace (1815 - 1852). Ada was one month old, when her father, Lord Byron, left his family forever. At her mother's insistence, Ada received a good education, with special emphasis on mathematics and science. For a girl, this was unusual, but Lady Byron wanted her daughter to become a disciplined, serious person, quite the opposite from what her father had been.

In 1833, Ada met <u>Charles Babbage</u>, who was the Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge. He showed her a small-scale version of the calculating machine he was working on called the difference engine. Ada was captivated

and asked for a copy of the blueprints so that she could understand how it worked. From the difference engine, Babbage moved to a much higher-level computer concept, the analytical engine. In 1842, <u>Luigi Federico Menabrea</u> published a paper called *Sketch of Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine*.

With Babbage's encouragement, Ada not only translated Menabrea's paper, she added her own notes and calculations. When her English translation of *Sketch of Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine* was published in 1843, most of the work was her own, including the world's first published computer program, or algorithm, the Bernoulli number algorithm. Because of this work, she is often referred to as the world's first computer programmer.

In the 1980s, a programming language for large-scale programming was developed for the U.S. Department of Defense. The language that combined Pascal-like notation with the ability to package operations and data into independent modules was named <u>Ada</u>, after Ada Lovelace.

### PortMiami's First Female Director & CEO





On March 10, 2022, Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava appointed Hydi Webb Director and CEO of PortMiami. Mrs. Webb oversees the growth and development of the world's leading cruise port and one of America's fastest-growing container ports. PortMiami is the U.S. container port closest to the Panama Canal, providing shippers fast access to Florida's thriving consumer base and the entire U.S. market. It generates more than 334,500 jobs and has an economic impact of \$43 billion.

Mrs. Webb is a maritime industry expert who started her career at PortMiami in 1992 and has gained experience in cruise and cargo business development, including negotiations of long-term agreements, strategic planning, client relations, marketing and communications, external affairs, and operations. Throughout her 30-year career at PortMiami, Mrs. Webb has held several executive positions, including Manager of Advertising & Public Relations, Manager of Cruise Development, Manager of Business Development, Assistant Director of Business Development and Marketing, and Deputy Director.

Mrs. Webb also represents PortMiami on international and local economic development and business organizations, including the Cruise Line Industry Association, the World Travel and Tourism Council, the American Association of Port Authorities, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Greater Miami and the Beaches Hotel Association, World Trade Center Miami, Beacon Council, Woman in International Trade, and various Chambers of Commerce among so others.

Mrs. Webb holds a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Florida.

## **MARCH 2022**



Cristine Keller Airport Protocol Officer Protocol & International Affairs Division Miami-Dade Aviation Department

As we celebrate Women's History Month, my colleagues and I are honored to share Global Horizons with you. Throughout history, women have faced obstacles at every turn, but have overcome them through grit, ingenuity, and dedication. Every victory, every advance, every setback, has paved the way and allowed us to reach higher, ever higher. Women have walked in space and lived on the International Space Station. They have climbed Mount Everest and descended to the bottom of the Mariana Trench. They have shattered the glass ceiling again and again and will continue to do so until there are no more glass ceilings left.

But lives do not have to be spectacular to have far-reaching effects. The single mother who works long hours to allow her children to go to school might be raising the next Nobel Laureate. The kindergarten teacher instilling a lifelong love for learning in her young charges might be encouraging a future president or visionary. As we move forward, our lives will pave the way for future generations, just like our sisters' lives have paved the way for us since time immemorial.

This edition was produced by the women of our Division: Vera, Moraima, Hellen, Veronique, and Cristine. We are grateful for the opportunities both Miami-Dade County and the Aviation Department have given us, and we are especially grateful to you, our readers, for your continued support. We hope you enjoy this issue!

### Inside this issue

Women's History Month	1
Women Who Inspire Us	2
Diplomatic & Consular Relations	3
Briefs & Notes	4
Independence & National Days	8
About Us	8

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# WOMEN WHO INSPIRE US

Throughout history women have played a pivotal, albeit often overlooked role in society. Their refusal to give up on their dreams coupled with their dedication and ingenuity paved the way and opened doors that allow us to pursue our dreams today. With gratitude, we would like to highlight some of the women who personally inspire us. Some are well known, some are not, but all are trailblazers.



<u>Geraldine "Jerrie" Mock</u> (1925 – 2014). When Geraldine "Jerrie" Mock landed her plane, *Spirit of Columbus*, at Port Columbus Airport on April 17, 1964, she had done something no other woman had done before her – she flew solo around the world. This unassuming housewife and mother of 3, flew 23,103-miles in her 1953 Cessna 180 single-engine monoplane in 29 days 11 hours 59 minutes.



Ellen Church (1904 – 1965) From an early age, Ellen dreamt of flying. After becoming a nurse and moving to San Francisco, she earned her private pilot's license. Hoping to turn her love of flying into a career, in February 1930, she went to the office of Boeing Air Transport, a forerunner of United Airlines. Although the airline only hired male pilots, she was able to convince them to hire her as an air stewardess by touting her nursing skills as a way to ease the passengers fear of flying. The company agreed to a three-month trial, and on May 15, 1930, Ellen Church became the world's first stewardess.



<u>Katharine Meyer Graham</u> (1917 – 2001) In 1963, Mrs. Graham was elected president of the Washington Post Company, the parent company of *The Washington Post*. Under her leadership, the paper became known for its aggressive investigative reporting, which included the release of the <u>Pentagon Papers</u> and the investigation of the <u>Watergate scandal</u>. When she took over as chief executive officer of the Washington Post Company in 1972, she became the first female CEO of a Fortune 500 company.



<u>Simone de Beauvoir</u> (1908 – 1986) The French writer and feminist, primarily known for her classic treatise *Le Deuxième Sexe* (<u>*The Second Sex*</u>), was a woman of formidable courage and integrity, "whose life supported her thesis: the basic options of an individual must be made on the premises of an equal vocation for man and woman founded on a common structure of their being, independent of their sexuality."



<u>Ursula M. Burns</u> (b. 1958) When Burns was named chief executive officer of Xerox in 2009, she became the first black woman to be named CEO of a Fortune 500 company as well as the first woman to succeed another woman as head of a Fortune 500 company.



<u>Phoebe F. Omlie</u> (1902 – 1975) In 1972, Omlie became the first woman to receive an airplane mechanic's license, as well as the first licensed female transport pilot in the United States. She was also the first woman appointed to a federal aviation post, when she served as Special Assistant for Air Intelligence with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics from 1933 until 1936. From 1941 until 1952, she worked with the Civil Aeronautics Administration.



Karen S. Lynch (b. 1963) After holding positions at Magellan Health Services and Cigna, she was appointed the first female president of Aetna. On February 1st, 2001, she was named president and chief executive officer of CVS Health, making her the highest-ranking female chief executive on the Fortune 500 list.



Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) Susan B. Anthony, an icon of the suffrage movement, travelled the country advocating for women's rights. Together with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, she founded the American Equal Rights Association. Their motto, "Men, their rights, and nothing more; women, their rights, and nothing less", was proudly and prominently displayed on the masthead of "*The Revolution*", the Association's newspaper. To challenge suffrage, Anthony and her three sisters voted in the Presidential election. She was arrested, tried, and found guilty, but was not sentenced to prison, so she was unable to appeal and take the question of women's voting rights to the Supreme Court. When the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was finally ratified in 1920, it was named the Susan B. Anthony Amendment.

# **DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS**

#### New Consul General, Consulate General of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas



The **Honorable Curt G. Hollingsworth** is the new Consul General, Consulate General of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas in Miami, Florida. He is a native of West End Grand Bahama, and he is best known as a community activist for the advancement of young people.

Mr. Hollingsworth has been a trailblazer in education with more than 39 years of combined experience as a physical educational teacher, coach, mentor, and administrator. He served as the Vice President, Bahamas Coaches Association of Track & Field, First Vice President, and President of BAAA, Vice Principal and Principal of St. Agnes School, Principal of Bishop Michael Eldon School, and the PLP candidate for Marco City 2021 General Elections.

He is a member of Kiwanis Club and G.B. Hotel and Licensing Board, President of Grand Bahama Secondary Athletics Association, National Coach – Carifta Team, and National Coach - Bahamas Junior Basketball Team.

Mr. Hollingsworth obtained the following educational achievements:

- High School Diploma Miami Carol City High School
- Associates of Arts Degree Miami-Dade College
- Bachelor of Arts in Educational Psychology, Cambridge University

Protocol & Diplomacy International / Protocol Officers Association (PDI-POA) Board of Directors Meet in Miami



The Protocol & International Affairs Division, Miami-Dade Aviation Department hosted a meet and greet reception for the visiting members of PDI-POA Board of Directors at MIA's Consular Lounge on March 4, 2022. Pictured above from L-R: Kim Starfield, Colleen Rickenbacher, April Harris, Harlan Lee, Darin Pfeifer, Ken Pyatt, MDAD's Aviation Deputy Director, Melissa Werner, President of PDI-POA, U. Desmond Alufohai, David Attree, Chris Young, Ginny Raderstorf, Maria-Stella Gatzoulis, and Catherine Wilson.

PDI-POA held its first-ever board of directors meeting in Miami, Florida, from March 4 - 5, 2022. Miami will host PDI-POA's 25th Annual International Protocol Educational Forum in July 2025. PDI-POA is the only international professional membership association for protocol professionals. It promotes the protocol profession and raises awareness of its central role in business and diplomacy through education and networking. The mission of PDI-POA is to provide the highest level of collective expertise and training, information, and advice regarding international and national accepted rules of protocol. We are committed to facilitating communication, understanding, and cooperation between individuals, governments and cultures.

#### Delegation of the European Union to the USA in Washington DC visits MIA



The European American Chamber of Commerce and the Miami-Dade Aviation Department's (MDAD) Protocol Division hosted two EU officials at the Consular Lounge on March 3, 2022. The EU officials received briefings from MDAD's executives and representatives from the Airlines and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

L-R: Mark Hatfield (MDAD), Dan Agostino (MDAD), Semcha Malika Ledad - Station Manager Air France & KLM at MIA/ Chairperson, Airline Management Council), Gabriella Wuyke, Ph.D., - Quarantine Public Health Officer (CDC), Mercedes Garcia Perez - Head of Global Issues & Innovation (EU), Kzim Ocakoglu - First Counselor on Mobility & Transport (EU), Christina Sleszynska - Executive Director of EACC, and U. Desmond Alufohai.

# **BRIEFS & NOTES**

### **Memorable Quotes**

At times, we all need a little inspiration to get through the day. The Protocol team would like to share some quotes that guide, inspire, and encourage us as we live our daily lives.

"One of the best things that ever happened to me is that I'm a woman. That is the way all females should feel." — *Marilyn Monroe* 

"You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it." — *Maya Angelou* 

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before beginning to improve the world." - Anne Frank

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." — *Eleanor Roosevelt* 

"The most courageous act is still to think for yourself. Aloud." – Coco Chanel

"If you just set out to be liked, you would be prepared to compromise on anything at any time, and you would achieve nothing."—*Margaret Thatcher* 

"Whatever title or office we may be privileged to hold, it is what we do that defines who we are ... Each of us must decide what kind of person we want to be—what kind of legacy that we want to pass on."— Queen Rania Al Abdullah of Jordan at The Women's Conference.

"Education is transformational. It literally changes lives. That is why people work so hard to become educated, and that is why education has always been the key to the American Dream, the force that erases arbitrary divisions of race and class and culture and unlocks every person's God-given potential."— *Condoleezza Rice* 

"The size of your dreams must always exceed your current capacity to achieve them. If your dreams do not scare you, they are not big enough."—*Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Former President of Liberia.* 

"At the end of the day, we can endure much more than we think we can." — *Frida Kahlo* 

"I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear." — *Rosa Parks* 

"The question isn't who's going to let me; it's who's going to stop me." — Ayn Rand

"Whatever you choose to do, leave tracks. That means don't do it just for yourself. You will want to leave the world a little better for your having lived." — *Ruth Bader Ginsburg* 

### The Legacy of Henrietta Lacks and her HeLa Cells



In 1951, <u>Henrietta Lacks</u> came to The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore complaining of vaginal bleeding. An examination showed a large, malignant cervical tumor. While she was undergoing treatment, cancer cells harvested during a biopsy were sent to Dr. George Gey. For years, Dr. Gey had been collecting cells from all cervical cancer patients at Hopkins, but the cells always died quickly. When he received

Mrs. Lacks' cells, he discovered something remarkable: while other cells died, Mrs. Lacks' cells doubled every 20 to 24 hours.

<u>HeLa cells</u> were the first immortal human cell line discovered and over the decades have contributed to many medical breakthroughs. They played a crucial role in the development of the polio vaccine and have been used to study the effects of toxins, drugs, hormones, and viruses on the growth of cancer cells. They have also been used to study the human genome, the AIDS Virus, and the effects of zero gravity.

Mrs. Lacks passed away on October 4, 1951, at the age of 31, never knowing the impact her cells would have on countless lives around the world.

#### Presidential Proclamation on Women's History Month

"Throughout our history, despite hardship, exclusion, and discrimination, women have strived and sacrificed for equity and equality in communities across the country. Generations of Native American women were stewards of the land and continue to lead the fight for climate justice. Black women fought to end slavery, advocate for civil rights, and pass the Voting Rights Act. Suffragists helped pass the 19th Amendment to the Constitution so that no American could be denied a vote on the basis of sex." – Joseph R. Biden Jr, February 28, 2022 (click on the following link for the full text of the <u>Presidential Proclamation</u>).

**The** <u>National Women's History Alliance</u> designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month. The 2022 theme is "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope." This theme is "both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history."

#### Miami-Dade County Commission for Women

Stats from the Miami-Dade County Status of Women 2021 Report:

- As of 2019, **51.4 percent** of the population of Miami-Dade County were women.
- 92.8 percent of female students in Miami-Dade graduated with their cohort compared to 86.4 percent of male students
- From 2015 to 2020, graduation rates for females increased from **80.4 to 89.6 percent**, in Miami-Dade County.
- State averages also show that women graduate high school at higher rates than men. For the 2019-2020 school year, Florida women graduated at a rate of **92.9 percent** and men graduated at a rate of **87.1 percent**

# **BRIEFS & NOTES**

### **International Day of Happiness - March 20, 2022**



The General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 66/281 of July 12, 2012 proclaimed March 20<sup>th</sup> - the International Day of Happiness, recognizing the relevance of happiness and well-being as universal goals and aspirations in the lives of human beings **Nations** around the world and the importance of their recognition in public policy objectives. It also recognized the need for a more inclusive, equitable and balanced approach to economic growth recognized the need for a more inclusive, equitable and balanced approach to economic growth

that promotes sustainable development, poverty eradication, happiness, and the well-being of all peoples.

The resolution was initiated by Bhutan, a country which recognized the value of national happiness over national income since the early 1970s and famously adopted the goal of Gross National Happiness over Gross National Product. It also hosted a High-Level Meeting on "Happiness and Well-Being: Defining a New Economic Paradigm" during the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly. The United Nations released its 10<sup>th</sup> annual World Happiness Report—to commemorate the annual International Day of Happiness on March 20, 2022. For the fifth year in a row, Finland has been named the happiest country in the world, with Denmark coming in second, followed by Iceland, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.

The World Happiness Report—which ranks global happiness in more than 150 countries around the world—is released every year by the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Solutions Network. The statisticians base the ranking on data from the Gallup World Poll and several other factors, including levels of GDP, life expectancy and more. With the world entering the third year of the pandemic, the report has three areas of focus in 2022: looking back; looking at how people and countries are doing in the face of Covid-19; and looking ahead to how the science of well-being is likely to evolve in the future.

### World's 20 Happiest Countries:

1) Finland, 2) Denmark, 3) Iceland, 4) Switzerland, 5) Netherlands

6) Luxembourg, 7) Sweden, 8) Norway, 9) Israel, 10) New Zealand

11) Austria, 12) Australia, 13) Ireland, 14) Germany, 15) Canada

16) United States, 17) United Kingdom, 18) Czech Republic, 19) Belgium, and 20) France

#### UAE's Minister of State for Happiness and Wellbeing

In February 2016, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Government created the post of Minister of State for Happiness and appointed Her Excellency Ohood bint Khalfan Al Roumi as the Minister. Her main responsibility was to harmonize all government plans, programs, and policies to achieve a happier society. Following the Cabinet reshuffle in 2017, another portfolio was added to the Minster of State for Happiness to become the Minster of State for Happiness and Wellbeing.

In the cabinet reshuffle in July 2020, the "Quality of Life and Happiness" portfolio was transferred to Ministry of Community Development. Click on the following link to read about the new structure of the UAE Government.

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17, the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. St. Patrick's Day 2022 took



place on Thursday, March 17. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast-on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

St. Patrick's Day, a.k.a. feast day (March 17) of St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland. St. Patrick was born in Roman Britain in the late 4<sup>th</sup> century, he was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but returned about 432 CE to convert the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools. Many legends grew up around him-for example, that he drove the snakes out of Ireland and used the <u>shamrock</u> to explain the <u>Trinity</u>. Ireland came to celebrate his day with religious services and feasts.

# **BRIEFS & NOTES**



The United States Senate approved legislation Tuesday, March 15, 2022, that would make daylight saving time permanent in the U.S., starting in 2023. The bill, called The Sunshine Protection Act, was <u>passed by unanimous consent</u>. If it is enacted, Americans would no longer need to change their clocks twice a year.

Daylight saving time started in the U.S. in 1918 to create more daylight hours during warmer months. It was extended by four weeks starting in 2007. States are not

required to follow daylight saving time — Hawaii and most of Arizona do not observe it. Under the legislation, states with areas exempt from daylight saving time would be permitted to choose standard time for those areas.

The bill now heads to the House of Representatives, where passage would send it to President Joe Biden's desk. Daylight saving time began on Sunday, March 13 at 2:00 AM and lasts until November 6, 2022.

#### **8 Surprising Facts About Daylight Saving Time**

#### 1. It's daylight-saving time, not daylight savings time

While it's common to hear people say, "daylight savings time" or just "daylight savings," the correct term is "daylight saving time." There's a grammatical reason for keeping "saving" singular, but you can also think of it this way: What are you doing during this time? Saving daylight. Thus, daylight saving time.

#### 2. It wasn't invented by Ben Franklin

"The biggest misconception is that it was Ben Franklin's idea," says Peter Geiger, editor of the *Farmers' Almanac*. While Franklin is often credited with inventing the concept of daylight-saving time as we know it, he merely suggested that Parisians wake up earlier to save money on lamp oil and candles in a satirical essay published in the *Journal de Paris* in 1784.

#### 3. It wasn't implemented for farmers, either

Another misconception? That the practice originated to benefit farmers. In fact, the agricultural industry lobbied against daylight saving time after it was introduced in the United States. Many farmers continue to oppose the practice, which can disrupt farm work. For example, dairy cows expect to be milked at the same hour each day — regardless of what the clock says.

#### 4. Daylight saving time was first practiced in Germany

Germany implemented daylight saving time in 1916 to save fuel during World War I. The United States adopted the practice in 1918, but daylight-saving time wasn't standardized across the country until the passage of the 1966 Uniform Time Act, which gave the federal government oversight over the time change.

#### 5. It's not a worldwide (or even nationwide) phenomenon

About 70 countries observe daylight saving time nationwide or in certain regions. Most African and Asian countries, including India, China, and Japan, skip the clock change altogether. Not all U.S. states practice daylight saving time, either. Hawaii and Arizona are on permanent standard time, as are Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

#### 6. The time frame used to be different

In the United States, daylight saving time starts on the second Sunday of March and ends the first Sunday in November. But that wasn't always the case, Geiger says. Prior to the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which went into effect in 2007, daylight saving time was observed from early April until late October.

#### 7. It has an impact on your health

Losing an hour of sleep each March can take a <u>serious toll</u> on your well-being. The shift to daylight saving time has been linked to an uptick in heart attacks, strokes, traffic fatalities and workplace injuries — and some <u>sleep experts</u> have called for an end to springing forward altogether.

#### 8. Many states want to stop changing the clock

In the last few years, 19 states have either enacted legislation or passed resolutions to stick to daylight saving time year-round but implementing this change would require an update to federal law. Under the Uniform Time Act, states can either observe daylight saving time as currently practiced or stay on standard time year-round — meaning there's no easy shortcut for those hoping for a permanent shift forward.

# THE ASIAN CONTINENT



List of the seven continents - Ranked by Current Position							
#	Continent	Population (2020)	Area (Km²)	Density (P/Km²)	Percentage of World Population		
1	Asia	4,641 billion	31,033,131	150	59.54%		
2	Africa	1,341 billion	29,648,481	45	17.20%		
3	Europe	748 million	22,134,900	34	9.59%		
4	North America	592 million	21,330,000	28	7.60%		
5	South America	431 million	17,461,112	25	5.53%		
6	Australia/Oceania	43 million	8,486,460	5	0.55%		
7	Antarctica	0	13,720,000	0	0.00%		

Asia is the largest continent of our planet, both in size and population. The Asian continent includes 48 countries, that are members of the United Nations. Asian countries are mainly located in the eastern Hemisphere and in the northern Hemisphere. Two of the Asian countries share part of their territory on the European continent; these countries are Russia and Turkey. More than 4.6 billion people live on the continent, (2021 estimates) Asia is thus the most populous continent.

Largest Country: Russia by area, even though roughly 40% of the country belongs to the European continent. China is the largest country by population.

**Largest City:** Tokyo in Japan. With more than 38 million inhabitants Tokyo is the largest city and has the largest metropolitan area. This city has more inhabitants than the entire country of Canada!

**Smallest Country:** Maldives. This Indian Ocean country is one of the smallest countries in the world and Asia's smallest country. It consists of 26 coral atolls which in total consist of more than 1,190 islands.

There are **12 landlocked countries** in Asia. The landlocked countries in Asia are: Armenia, <u>Bhutan</u>, Laos, <u>Nepal</u>, Mongolia as well as the seven central Asian countries ending in -stan: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. These landlocked Asian countries are in the interior of the continent and do not have access to any ocean.

**Biggest Island:** Borneo in South-East Asia is also the third largest island in the world and the largest in Asia. The island belongs to three countries: <u>Malaysia</u> and Brunei in the north while Indonesia claims the southern part of the island. Borneo is home to vast rainforests and many animals only live on this island such as the Bornean Orang-Utan.

**Longest River:** Yangtze River is the longest on the Asian continent. It is in <u>China</u> and is 6,300 meters/ 3,915 miles long. The Yangtze is the third longest river in the world after the Amazon and the Nile.

**Highest Mountains:** Mount Everest. The mountain is in the Himalayan Mountain range and the highest peak is 8,849 m/ 29,035 ft high. The Himalayas, between Nepal and China are the world's highest mountains.

**Biggest Lake:** Caspian Sea. The coastline is shared by five countries: Russia, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and Iran. The lake is also among the deepest lakes in the world with a maximum depth of more than 1,000 m/3,300 ft! Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, is located at the Caspian Sea.

# **INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAYS (MARCH)**

#### **Countries celebrating Independence / National Day in March**

March 1, 1992 - Bosnia and Herzegovina: On March 1, the referendum for independence was completed, and on March 3, Bosnia and Herzegovina declared independence from Yugoslavia.

**March 2, 1956** – **Morocco:** After signing the French Moroccan Agreement on March 2, 1956, Morocco gained independence from France. The abolition of the Spanish protectorate, and recognition of Moroccan independence by Spain, were negotiated separately and made final in the Joint Declaration of April 1956.

March 3, 1878 – Bulgaria: On Liberation Day, March 3, 1878, Bulgaria became an autonomous principality within the Ottoman Empire and remained as such until it gained full independence in 1908.

March 6, 1957 - Ghana: Formed by the merger of the Gold Coast (British colony) and the Togoland trust territory, Ghana became the first Sub-Saharan country in colonial Africa to gain its independence on March 6, 1957.

March 11, 1990 – Lithuania: This day, known as Restoration of Independence Day, marks the day Lithuania declared independence from the Soviet Union in 1990.

March 12, 1968 - Mauritius: On March 12, 1968, Mauritius gained independence from the United Kingdom. 24 years later, on March 12, 1992 it became a republic.

March 13, 2013 - Holy See (Vatican City): This day commemorates the election of Pope Francis in 2013.

March 15, 1848 – Hungary: On March 15, Revolution Day, Hungarians commemorate the Revolution and the War of Independence against the Austrian-Hapsburg rule in 1848 – 1849.

**March 17, 1903 - Ireland:** Saint Patrick's Day, marks the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, patron saint of Ireland. Although this day was celebrated as early as the ninth century, it did not become an official public holiday and Ireland's National Day until 1903. The Irish American Heritage Month is also celebrated in March to honor the many contributions Irish Americans have made to the United States.

March 17, 1861 - Italy: After the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies joined Piedmont-Sardinia, the new Kingdom of Italy was proclaimed on 17 March 1861.

March 20, 1956 – Tunisia: The country gained independence from France on 20 March 1956.

March 21, 1990 – Namibia: On this day, Namibia gained independence from the South African mandate.

March 25, 1821 - Greece: After being part of the Ottoman Empire since 1453, the War of Greek Independence began on March 25, 1821. Independence was achieved on 3 February 1830, but March 25 continues to be celebrated as Greek Independence Day. Greek American Heritage Month is also celebrated in March to honor the many contributions Greek American have made to the United States.

**March 26, 1971 - Bangladesh:** Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, leader of the Awami League and "Father of the Nation" declared an independent Bangladesh on March 26, 1971. The fight for independence lasted until 16 December 1971, when Pakistan was defeated, and the nation of Bangladesh was born.

### **ABOUT US**

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is -

To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.

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For comments, suggestions, event announcements or to opt-out, please send us an email.

