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Welcome to the year 2022! Last year was full of epic events with global consequences. Collaboration has been a constant theme as individuals, organizations, and nations find creative solutions to problems facing mankind.

We welcome the Honorable Fezza Barutçu-Altuğ, the new Consul General, Consulate General of Türkiye in Miami, and Mrs. Mihaela Simona Florea, Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Romania in Miami to South Florida.

We celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the occasion of his 93rd birthday and the 27th anniversary of MLK Holiday and National Day of Service. Dr. King, advocated for non-violent resistance to overcome injustice as a means of lifting racial oppression, for which he received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

We salute the nations celebrating their independence or national day in January. In, particular, we join the Haitian community in celebration of the declaration of "Soup Joumou" as an [Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity](#) by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

We are so grateful for not only your continued partnership, but for your friendship. We look forward to working together in the new year. As always, please be safe!

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The Republic of Turkey changes its Name



The Turkish Flag

His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Turkey [issued a communique](#) on December 3, 2021 to officially change the name to Türkiye. "The phrase Türkiye represents and expresses the culture, civilization and values of the Turkish nation in the best way..." "In this context, the phrase 'Made in Türkiye' is now being used instead of 'Made in Turkey' on our export products,

which are the pride of our country in international trade," noted the communique. The change reflects thousands of years of experience. The English word means land of the Turks, and the phrase Türkiye dates to the 14th century.

Below are some important facts about Turkish Republic that you probably didn't know:

Santa Claus was born in Turkey

Santa Claus, or more precisely Saint Nicolas, a Christian saint and Greek Bishop of Myra, was born in Patara, Lycia or what is now known as Demre in Turkey. Also, the Virgin Mary's final resting place is thought to be somewhere near Ephesus.

Tünel is the world's second oldest underground railway

On January 17, 1875, the Tünel underground funicular began to operate, becoming the world's second underground railway after the London Underground. Tünel continues to run between Beyoğlu and Karaköy and is one of the oldest surviving rail lines in continental Europe.

Turkey introduced tulips to the world

Even though no one knows where tulips are originally from, it is certain that the Ottomans loved the flower and helped to make it popular all-around Europe. The story goes that a Flemish ambassador, who visited Süleyman the Magnificent, introduced the flower to Holland in the 16th century.

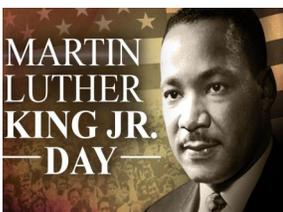
Turkey is the largest producer of hazelnuts

Turkey may be known for classics such as [Turkish Delight](#) or [Turkish Coffee](#), but it is actually the world's largest producer of hazelnuts. Turkish hazelnuts make up around 72.9% of the world's supply, and the country's Eastern Black Sea region produces approximately 60% of that.

Agriculture began in Turkey

More than 11,000 years ago, inhabitants of Çatalhöyük, a large Neolithic and Chalcolithic settlement in south-central Turkey, were consuming crops such as wheat and barley, which historians accept as the earliest example of agriculture.

Source: [Culture Trip](#)



On January 17, 2022, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday marked the 27th anniversary of the National Day of Service. This day was established to honor the life and legacy of Dr. King, and to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. Americans celebrated the first official Martin Luther King Day, which is the only federal holiday commemorating an African American, on Monday, January 20, 1986. In 1994, Congress designated the holiday as a

National Day of Service and marking the third Monday in January as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service - a "Day On, Not a Day Off."

Dr. King advocated for nonviolent resistance to overcome injustice as a means of lifting racial oppression. Following in the footsteps of his grandfather and father, he became a Baptist minister. He created change with organized sit-ins, marches, and peaceful demonstrations that highlighted issues of inequality. In 1964, Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize at the young age of 35 for his peaceful campaign against racism. At that time, he was the youngest person to ever receive this high honor.

DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS

New Consul General of the Consulate of Türkiye arrives in Miami

The Honorable Feyza Barutçu-Altuğ assumed her post as Consul General of Türkiye in Miami on January 10, 2022. Prior to her new position, she served in the following capacities:



Head of Department for Maritime Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, Ankara (September 2019 - December 2021); Political Counsellor, Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Athens, Greece (October 2015 - September 2019); Head of Department for Council of Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, Ankara (September 2012 - October 2015); Political Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Beirut, Lebanon (September 2010 - September 2012); Second Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Riga, Latvia (October 2006 - September 2010); Political Advisor, Office of High Representative (OHR), Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina (September 2005 - October 2006); Election Observer and Reporter, Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Macedonia (March 2005); Attaché, Directorate-General of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye (March 2003 - September 2005).

Her academic accomplishments include:

- * Rhodes Summer Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, 24th Session University of Virginia School of Law, 2019.
- * Master of Laws (LL.M.) of Public International Law and Human Rights, Riga Graduate School of Law, Latvia, 2008-2009.
- * Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) of International Relations, Bilkent University, Ankara, Türkiye, Department of International Relations, 1999-2002.
- * Department of Business and Management Administration (transferred), University of Maryland University College, Mons, Belgium, 1997-1998.
- * SHAPE American High School, Mons, Belgium (1996-1998) - Graduated with U.S. President's Award for Academic Excellence.

Ms. Barutçu-Altuğ is fluent in the following languages: Turkish, English, French, and Spanish (elementary level).

Meet Romania's new Deputy Consul General in Miami



Mrs. Mihaela Simona Florea is a career diplomat. She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania in 2008. She held various positions both at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Headquarters and in the Romanian diplomatic service abroad. She arrived in Miami in October 2021 to assume her new position as Deputy Consul General/Consul at the Consulate General of Romania in Miami.

Prior to her arrival in Miami, she served as:

The Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations (New York) - First Secretary/Consul with responsibilities for political, administrative and budgetary matters (Fifth Committee) and special election officer for promoting the candidacy of Romania to the United Nations Security Council (2017 - 2021); The Consulate General of Romania in New York - Vice Consul and Special Representative for the implementation of SIMISC (Information System for Integrated Management of Citizen Services) at the level of all consular representatives in North and South America (2011-2016); The Consulate General of Romania in Istanbul - Vice Consul, responsible for issuing the Romanian Visa for foreign citizens and ensuring the implementation of the Schengen Acquis in the field of visas 2010 - 2011; The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Consular Relations - Consular Agent/Diplomat (2008 - 2009); and the Law Office, maritime law and insolvency lawyer (2003 - 2007).

She obtained her Postgraduate Academic Studies on International Relations and European Integration from the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Bucharest (2001 - 2003), Bachelor of Law, Law Faculty, The University of Bucharest (1996 - 2000), and she also attended the College for Mathematics and Physics, Constanta (1992 - 1996).

Ms. Florea is fluent in English and French with good command of Spanish and Turkish.

BRIEFS & NOTES

JANUARY NATIONAL SLAVERY & HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

National Statistics

 **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**
is the third largest international crime industry.

\$90

The average cost of a slave.


14.5-17.5 K
people are trafficked into the U.S. each year.

50% of people trafficked across international borders are children.

12-14 YEARS OLD The average age a teen enters the sex trade in the U.S.

[Click here](#) to view the Presidential Proclamation on National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, 2022.

Source: [Place of Hope](#)



On November 1, 2005, the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 60/7 to designate January 27 as [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#) (IHRD). The date marks the [liberation](#) of [Auschwitz-Birkenau](#) and is meant to honor the six (6) million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions of other victims of Nazism. The same resolution supports the development of educational programs to remember the [Holocaust](#) and to prevent further [genocide](#). Resolution 60/7 not only establishes January 27 as “International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust,” it also rejects any form of [Holocaust denial](#).

The resolution encourages member states of the UN to actively preserve sites that the Nazis used during the “[Final Solution](#).” Drawing from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the resolution condemns all forms of “religious intolerance, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities based on ethnic origin or religious belief” throughout the world. The first commemoration ceremony was held on January 27, 2006, at the UN Headquarters in New York City. Nearly 2,200 people attended in person. Since the ceremony was broadcast live on television, many more people were able to view it throughout the world. The UN Headquarters holds official commemorations each year. UN offices across the world and other state offices also conduct their own ceremonies. Since 2010, the UN has designated specific themes for the annual commemorations.

Haiti’s [Joumou Soup](#) A.K.A. Soupe De L’Indépendance, Soupe De La Liberté



On December 16, 2021, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared “Soup Joumou” an [Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity](#). The soup, also known as giraumon soup, is closely linked to Haiti’s independence and a symbol for freedom. As such, it is consumed specifically on January 1, Haiti’s Independence Day, making it the first meal of the year for many Haitians.

During colonial times, Haitian slaves were tasked with making soup Joumou for their masters but forbidden from eating it themselves. Some suggest that slaves consumed the soup for the first time on August 14, 1791, during the Bois Caïman ceremony that signaled the beginning of the [Haitian Revolution](#) and described it as a [culinary manifestation of the rebellion](#). Other sources, date the tradition to January 1, 1804 when [Jean-Jacques Dessalines](#) declared Haiti’s independence. According to [Dominique Dupuy](#), Haiti’s ambassador to UNESCO, Dessalines asked his wife, Marie-Claire Heureuse Félicité Bonheur, to “declare that this is now the national soup of the first free Black people in the history of humanity.”

The soup is tasty, bright yellow, and velvety. Joumou, the creole word derived from giraumon, the French name of [turban squash](#), is the core ingredient. It is native to the Caribbean and was once cultivated by the Carib Indians. Vegetables, plantains, meat, pasta, and spices perfectly complement the squash and contribute to the soup’s delicious taste. Preparing this celebratory dish promotes family and community ties as families work together preparing and cooking the ingredients, while farmers work the land to harvest the vegetables and raise the livestock, and artisans make the pots and utensils needed to prepare the soup.

BRIEFS & NOTES

Cyclones, Hurricanes, Monsoons, Tornadoes, Tsunamis, and Typhoons: What's the difference?

On January 15, 2022, the [Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano](#), located about 65 kilometers north of Tonga's capital, Nuku'alofa, exploded with such force, that its ash cloud reached 30 kilometers high into the atmosphere. It also unleashed large waves that reached Japan and Peru, and triggered tsunami warnings as far away as Alaska and the U.S. West coast. In Tonga's capital, the sea level gauge recorded a tsunami wave of 1.19 meters before it stopped recording.

Below are some of the destructive weather-related phenomena:

[Hurricanes, cyclones, and typhoons are all the same weather phenomenon.](#) Scientists just call these storms different things



depending on where they occur. In the Atlantic and northern Pacific, the storms are called "**hurricanes**," after the Caribbean god of evil, named Hurrigan. In the northwestern Pacific, the same powerful storms are called "**typhoons**." In the southeastern Indian Ocean and southwestern Pacific, they are called "**severe tropical cyclones**." In the northern Indian Ocean, they're called "severe cyclonic storms." In the southwestern Indian Ocean, they're just "tropical cyclones." To be classified as a hurricane, typhoon, or cyclone, a storm must reach wind speeds of at least 74 miles per hour (119 kilometers per hour). If a hurricane's winds reach speeds of 111 miles per hour (179 kilometers per hour), it is upgraded to an "intense hurricane." If a typhoon hits 150 miles per hour (241 kilometers per hour) then it becomes a "supertyphoon."

A [monsoon](#) is a seasonal change in the direction of the prevailing, or strongest, winds of a region. Monsoons cause wet and dry seasons throughout much of the tropics. Monsoons are most often associated with the Indian Ocean. Monsoons always blow from cold to warm regions. The summer monsoon and the winter monsoon determine the climate for most of India and Southeast Asia. In 2005, a strong monsoon devastated western India. As the summer monsoon blew in from the southwest, it first hit the state of Gujarat, killing more than 100 people. Then, the monsoon rains hit the state of Maharashtra. Flooding in Maharashtra killed more than 1,000 people. On July 26, 2005, the city of Mumbai, Maharashtra, received almost a meter (39.1 inches) of rain.

A **tornado** is a violently rotating column of air that extends from a [thunderstorm](#) to the ground. It's often portended by a dark, greenish sky. Black storm clouds gather. Baseball-size [hail](#) may fall. A funnel suddenly appears, as though descending from a cloud. The funnel hits the ground and roars forward with a sound like that of a freight train approaching. [Tornadoes](#) are vertical funnels of rapidly spinning air. Their winds may top 250 miles an hour and can clear a pathway a mile wide and 50 miles long. Also known as twisters, tornadoes are born in [thunderstorms](#) and are often accompanied by [hail](#). Giant, persistent thunderstorms called supercells spawn the most [destructive tornadoes](#).

These violent storms occur around the world, but the [United States](#) is a major hotspot with about a thousand tornadoes every year. "[Tornado Alley](#)," a region that includes South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, northern Texas, and eastern Colorado, is often home to the most powerful and destructive of these storms. U.S. tornadoes cause 80 deaths and more than 1,500 injuries per year.

A [tsunami](#) is a series of ocean waves that sends surges of water, sometimes reaching heights of over 100 feet (30.5 meters), onto land. The term "tsunami" comes from the Japanese words "tsu" (harbor) and "nami" (wave). These walls of water can cause widespread [destruction](#) when they crash ashore. The awe-inspiring waves are typically caused by large undersea [earthquakes](#) at [tectonic plate boundaries](#). When the ocean floor at a plate boundary rises or falls suddenly, it displaces the water above it and launches the rolling waves that will become a tsunami. Most tsunamis—about 80 percent—happen within the Pacific Ocean's "Ring of Fire," a geologically active area where tectonic shifts make volcanoes and earthquakes common. Although less common, volcanic eruptions, submarine landslides, and coastal rock falls have also generated them. Tsunamis may even be launched, as they frequently were in Earth's ancient past, by the impact of a large meteorite plunging into the ocean. The waves race across the sea at up to 500 miles (805 kilometers) an hour—about as fast as a jet airplane. At that pace, they can cross the entire expanse of the Pacific Ocean in less than a day. And their long wavelengths mean they lose very little energy along the way.

[Tsunamis are rare events](#) but can be extremely deadly. During the past 100 years, tsunamis have claimed more than 260,000 lives, surpassing any other natural hazard. The deadliest was the Boxing Day (the day after Christmas) Tsunami of 2004 that struck the Indian Ocean, killing an estimated 227,000 people in 14 countries. Although less common, volcanic eruptions, submarine landslides, and coastal rock falls have also generated tsunamis, and geologists have found evidence of [past asteroid impact on tsunamis](#).

INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAYS (JANUARY)

January 1, 1804 – Haiti: In the late 18th century, Toussaint L'Ouverture led a revolution of Haiti's nearly half a million slaves that ended France's rule on the island. After a prolonged struggle, and under the leadership of Jean-Jacques Dessalines, Haiti became the first country in the world led by former slaves after declaring its independence on January 1, 1804, but it was forced to pay an indemnity to France for more than a century. Dessalines renamed it Haiti after the original Taíno-Arawak name for the entire island of Hispaniola, which they called Ay-ti 'land of mountains'.

January 1, 1956 – Sudan: On this date, Sudan gained independence from Egypt and Great Britain.

January 1, 1960 – Cameroon: In 1960, French Cameroun gained independence from France, and the Republic of Cameroon was proclaimed. After an UN-supervised plebiscite on February 11, 1961, in British Cameroons, the south decided to join Cameroon, creating the Federal Republic of Cameroon, while the north joined the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

January 1, 1962 – Samoa: On this date, Samoa gained full independence from New Zealand, becoming the first pacific nation to gain independence. The date of the holiday was moved to June 1 so that it would not conflict with New Year's Day.

January 1, 1984 – Brunei Darussalam: Brunei Darussalam had been a British protectorate since 1888 and gained full independence from the United Kingdom on January 1, 1984.

January 4, 1948 – Myanmar: Burma declared independence from British rule on January 4, 1948. In 1989, the military controlled government renamed the country Myanmar. This name originated from "Mranma"; the name of the Bamar people who first started migrating from China to the Irrawaddy River during the 7th century.

January 22, 1918 – Ukraine: On this day in 1918, the Ukrainian People's Republic declared its independence from Soviet Russia, and on January 22, 1919, the Act of Unity briefly united the Western and Greater (Eastern) Ukrainian Republics. In 1922, the new Union of Soviet Socialist Republics reconquered the country, and Ukraine became one of the original republics of the USSR. On August 24, 1991, Ukraine regained its independence. January 22 remains an important day for Ukrainians and is celebrated as Unity Day.

January 26, 1788 – Australia: Australia Day commemorates the landing of the First Fleet in Port Jackson, New South Wales, on January 26, 1788. On this day, the British flag was raised for the first time, signaling both the beginning of the colony and the founding of Australia.

January 31, 1968 – Nauru: A 1919 agreement placed the island under joint British-Australian-New Zealand rule. Nauru was granted self-rule in 1966 and achieved full independence in 1968, making it the smallest island country on Earth, and third smallest in landmass behind only Vatican City and Monaco.

List of Countries that have changed their names

Countries changing or tweaking their names is not as unusual as one might imagine. The table below are some countries that have changed their names:

Previous Country Name	New Name	Date Changed
Holland	The Netherlands	2020
Macedonia	North Macedonia	2019
Swaziland	eSwatini	2018
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde	2013
Ceylon	Sri Lanka	2011
East Timor	Timor-Leste	2002
Zaire	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1997
Upper Volta	Burkina Faso	1994
Czech Republic	Czechia	1993
Kampuchea	Cambodia	1991
Southwest Africa	Namibia	1990
Burma	Myanmar	1989
Rhodesia	Zimbabwe	1980
Gilbert Islands	Kiribati	1979
French Somaliland	Djibouti	1977
Dahomey	Benin Republic	1975
Siam	Thailand	1939
Persia	Iran	1935

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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