



**U. Desmond Alufohai**  
Director

Protocol & International Affairs Division  
Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD)

We welcome you to 2023! January was named for the Roman god [Janus](#), known as the protector of gates and doorways who symbolize beginnings and endings. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking into the past, the other with the ability to see into the future. January is a fitting symbol for our door into the new year and new beginnings.

Historically, January is the best month to start planning. In astronomy, there is a sense of new beginnings. In the Northern Hemisphere, the days are starting to get longer again, and we look forward to the light's re-emergence as the full Moon reaches peak illumination. So January is the time to plan! As you gather your team to plan for the remainder of the year and beyond, remember these 5-P's: **p**rior **p**reparation **p**revents **p**oor **p**erformance!

We take this opportunity to congratulate the Argentines for winning the 2022 FIFA World Cup Soccer in Qatar. We present information about Miami-Dade County elected officials even as we mourn the late Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of Courts - the longest serving Miami-Dade County official, who passed away on December 31, 2022. We welcome Mr. William René Salamanca Ramirez, the new Consul General of Colombia in Miami to our community. We also salute all nations celebrating their independence or national day this month. As always, please be safe!

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## Country Profile: Argentina



Map and Flag of Argentina



Head of State & Government:  
President Alberto Fernández  
Capital: Buenos Aires  
Population: 46.2 million (2022 est.)

Argentina is a vast country located in the southern part of South America. It is the second largest country in South America after Brazil, and the eighth largest country in the world. Altogether, the country is divided into four regions – the Andes, the Pampas, the north and Patagonia, which covers the southern part of the country.

Argentina has an eclectic mix of native South American, European, and Asian cultures that guarantees a little something for everyone. It is easy to feel at home no matter your country of birth. The people, even in the large cities, are friendly and welcoming. It also boasts incredibly diverse climates and geography, ranging from subtropical jungle in the north down to arctic conditions in the south, miles of coastline, the towering Andes, desert regions, and some of the most fertile farmlands in the world. With a population of almost 46 million, it is home to modern cities, quaint villages, and everything in between.

The museums and theaters of Buenos Aires, Mendoza, and Córdoba are among the best in the world. Just walking the La Recoleta cemetery in Buenos Aires is a cultural feast. Additionally, the rich mix of architectural styles; the blend of culinary and musical arts from different cultures, and the rich history found even in the smallest of towns is enough to satisfy the most demanding connoisseurs of the arts.

**Some Interesting Facts About Argentina**

**Argentina is named after a precious metal:** The name Argentina derives from the Latin word *ARGENTUM*, meaning silver. It is also the only country in the world to be named after a metal because Argentina's original settlers believed that the country was full of silver!

**The Tango was born in Buenos Aires:** Tango has been around since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and has spread throughout the world as a sensual dance of love.

**First Country in the World to use fingerprints to solve crime:** In 1890, a woman called Francisca Rojas claimed that someone had brutally stabbed her two young children to death in their rural home in Argentina. Her suspicious neighbor was arrested and tortured without confessions. The detective found a bloody fingerprint at the scene of the crime and requested the fingerprints from the mother. It was a match! The mother confessed to the murder, becoming the first person in the world to be found guilty through fingerprint evidence.

**Tallest mountains in the Southern and Western Hemispheres:** Argentina's tallest mountain is called Mount Aconcagua and is found in the Mendoza province. It stands at an incredible height of 6,959 meters or 22,831 feet above sea level! This mountain holds the title of highest peak in both the southern and western hemispheres. It is basically the highest mountain in the world outside of Asia.

**Largest Spanish speaking country in the world:** Argentina is the largest Spanish speaking country in the world, with a population of over 46 million people. It is also the 8<sup>th</sup> largest country in the world covering 2,780,400 km<sup>2</sup> – that is largely unpopulated, with impressive variety of landscapes.

The [Argentina national football team](#) won the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. They were also champions in 1978 and 1986, making them one of the most successful national soccer team in the world. Argentina maintains a [Consulate General and Promotion Center](#) in Miami.

# MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



**Daniella Levine Cava**  
Mayor



**Oliver G. Gilbert, III**  
Chairman  
District 1



**Anthony Rodriguez**  
Vice Chairman  
District 10

## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



**Marleine Bastien**  
District 2



**Keon Hardemon**  
District 3



**Micky Steinberg**  
District 4



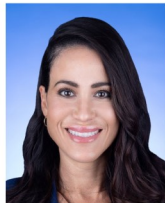
**Eileen Higgins**  
District 5



**Kevin Marino Cabrera**  
District 6



**Raquel A. Regalado**  
District 7



**Danielle Cohen Higgins**  
District 8



**Kionne L. McGhee**  
District 9



**Roberto J. Gonzalez**  
District 11



**Juan Carlos Bermudez**  
District 12



**Sen. René Garcia**  
District 13



**Luis G. Montaldo**  
Clerk Ad Interim



**Pedro J. Garcia**  
Property Appraiser

### Office of the Mayor

#### Mayor Daniella Levine Cava

Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC)  
111 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor, Miami, FL, 33128  
Email: [mayor@miamidade.gov](mailto:mayor@miamidade.gov); Office: 305-375-5071  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/mayor/home.page>

### Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners

#### Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III (District 1)

**Cities/Municipalities in District 1:** Cities of Opa-Locka and Miami Gardens, and unincorporated communities, including California Club, Ives Estates, and Country Club Lakes.  
Email: [district1@miamidade.gov](mailto:district1@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-5694;  
District Office: 305-474-3011;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district01/home.page>

#### Commissioner Marleine Bastien (District 2)

**Cities/Municipalities in District 2:** Portions of the City of Miami, North Miami, North Miami Beach, Opa-Locka, City of Hialeah, and unincorporated areas of Liberty City, Biscayne Gardens, and North Dade Central.  
Email: [district2@miamidade.gov](mailto:district2@miamidade.gov); downtown Office: 305-375-4833;  
District Office: 305-694-2779;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district02/home.page>

#### Vice-Chairman Anthony Rodriguez (District 10)

**Cities/Municipalities in District 10:** Portions of Kendall, Westchester, and Fontainebleau.  
Email: [district10@miamidade.gov](mailto:district10@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-4835;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district10/home.page>

#### Commissioner Keon Hardemon (District 3)

**Cities/Municipalities in District 3:** Within the City of Miami: Liberty City, Little Haiti, Overtown, the Upper East Side, Edgewater, Buena Vista, Allapattah, Wynwood, Venetian Causeway, and Watson Island; Biscayne Shores Park area, the Village of El Portal, and the Village of Miami Shores.  
Email: [district3@miamidade.gov](mailto:district3@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-5393;  
Joseph Caleb Center: 305-636-2331;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district03/home.page>

#### Commissioner Micky Steinberg (District 4)

**Cities/Municipalities in District 4:** Golden Beach, Aventura, North Miami Beach, North Miami, Sunny Isles Beach, Surfside, Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor Islands, Biscayne Park, Indian Creek, Miami Beach, Miami Shores, and North Bay Village.  
Email: [district4@miamidade.gov](mailto:district4@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-5128;  
District Office: 305-787-5999;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district04/home.page>

# MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS, CONTD.

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Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC)  
111NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor, Miami, FL, 33128  
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Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/mayor/home.page>

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District Office: 305-694-2779;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district02/home.page>

### **Vice-Chairman Anthony Rodriguez (District 10)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 10:  
Portions of Kendall, Westchester, and Fontainebleau.  
Email: [district10@miamidade.gov](mailto:district10@miamidade.gov)  
Downtown Office: 305-375-4835; Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district10/home.page>

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Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district03/home.page>

### **Commissioner Micky Steinberg (District 4)**

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District Office: 305-787-5999;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district04/home.page>

### **Commissioner Eileen Higgins (District 5)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 5: Downtown Miami, Brickell, Miami River, The Roads, Silver bluff, Shenandoah, South and Mid Miami Beach, Little Havana, and West Flagler.  
Email: [district5@miamidade.gov](mailto:district5@miamidade.gov); Main Office: 305-375-5924; Miami Beach Office: 305-375-5924; Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district05/home.page>

### **Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera (District 6)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 6: City of Miami, Coral Gables, West Miami, Hialeah, Miami Springs, and the unincorporated communities of Schenley Park, Coral Villas, Red Bird, Coral Terrace, Little Gables, and Fontainebleau.  
Email: [district6@miamidade.gov](mailto:district6@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-5696;  
District Office: 305-267-6377; Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district06/home.page>

### **Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado (District 7)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 7: Pinecrest, Village of Key Biscayne, Coral Gables, South Miami, and City of Miami.  
Email: [district7@miamidade.gov](mailto:district7@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office/District Office: 305-375-5680; Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district07/home.page>

### **Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins (District 8)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 8: Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay, Homestead, unincorporated areas of South Dade, including: Redlands, Falls, Princeton, Naranja, Leisure City, and parts of West Kendall.  
Email: [district8@miamidade.gov](mailto:district8@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-5218;  
South Dade District Office: 305-378-6677;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district08/home.page>

### **Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee (District 9)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 9: Redlands, Homestead, Homestead Base, Perrine, Florida City, Naranja, Richmond Heights, South Miami Heights, Cutler Bay.  
Email: [district9@miamidade.gov](mailto:district9@miamidade.gov); Downtown/District Office: 305-375-4832; Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district09/home.page>

### **Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez (District 11)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 11: West Dade's unincorporated areas, including: Country Walk, Hammocks, Kendale Lakes, Bent Tree, lakes of the Meadows.  
Email: [district11@miamidade.gov](mailto:district11@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office/District Office: 305-375-5511; Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district11/home.page>

### **Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez (District 12)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 12: Doral, a portion of Hialeah, Hialeah Gardens, Medley, Sweetwater, Virginia Gardens, and a large portion of unincorporated Miami-Dade County.  
Email: [district12@miamidade.gov](mailto:district12@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-4343;  
District Office: 305-599-1200; Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district12/home.page>

### **Commissioner René Garcia (District 13)**

Cities/Municipalities in District 13: Hialeah, Miami Lakes, Palm Springs North, and neighboring areas of unincorporated Miami-Dade.  
Email: [district13@miamidade.gov](mailto:district13@miamidade.gov); Downtown Office: 305-375-4831;  
District Main Office: 305-820-8424;  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/commission/district13/home.page>

## **Miami-Dade County Clerk of the Courts**

**Luis G. Montaldo**, Clerk Ad Interim  
73 W. Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33130  
Main Office: 305-275-1155  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/clerk/home.page>

## **Miami-Dade County Property Appraiser**

**Pedro J. Garcia**, Property Appraiser  
Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 710, Miami, FL 33128  
Main Office: 305-375-4712  
Webpage: <https://www.miamidade.gov/pa/contact.asp>

# DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS

## Meet the New Consul General of Colombia in Miami



**Mr. William René Salamanca Ramirez** is the new Consul General of Colombia in Miami, Florida. He was born in Úmbita (Boyacá). At the age of 17 he joined the Police Cadet School, General Santander, which began a successful police career of more than 38 years. He is a Business Administrator and Police Administrator, with specializations in International Relations and Integral Security. He obtained a master's degree in Government and Public Policy from the Externado de Colombia University and Columbia University (New York), and a master's degree in Public Security. He also attended the Hemispheric Defense Center in Washington D.C., for advanced studies on counterterrorism, crisis management and leadership. He completed the Comprehensive Course on Security and National Defense at the Colombian War College and English based studies at Harvard University (Boston, Massachusetts).

Throughout his brilliant career, he held positions of administrative and operational responsibilities, nationally. As a Second Lieutenant, he oversaw and commanded the disaster zone after the eruption of the snowy volcano "Del Ruiz" where he exercised inter-institutional leadership in the care of thousands of victims. Because of his discipline, professionalism, and transparency, he was part of the group responsible for combating the fight against illicit economies in several areas of the country. He served as Presidential aide-de-camp being highlighted by the President of Colombia with 'The Order of San Carlos'.

In his first diplomatic position, he made the spotlight as Police Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Washington DC, with his contributions in the implementation of the Colombia-United States Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the strengthening of the relations between the Colombian National Police with Federal Agencies in the fight against organized crime.

Upon his return to Colombia, he successfully assumed the General Management of Security for the VI Summit of the Americas in Cartagena de Indias, where he was recognized by national and international authorities. Due to his outstanding accomplishments, he was sent to Panama City, to advise the Panamanian government in the organization of the VII Summit of the Americas.

He actively participated in the security and protection of candidates for the presidency, congress, governorships, and mayors by designing inter-institutional strategies with technology and trained human talent, achieving successful electoral events in the last twelve years. As a result of the good relations with the country's land transport sector and transit authorities, he implemented a security strategy with technology to reduce crimes on the country's roads.

Mr. Salamanca assumed the security chief position of the Pacific coast of Colombia, where he led, with the support of other institutions, the implementation of the peace agreements in this complex area. He organized the institutional social dialogue, with the participation of social leaders to meet the needs of the population and launched an offense through 'Operation Atalanta', together with national authorities and the support of the United States Embassy to investigate in a forceful way acts of organized crime.

As Inspector General, he created the Human Rights Observatory and led the transparency policy in the National Police and a frontal fight against corruption, with the support of agencies of the U.S. Embassy, judicial and administrative authorities and created the electronic file system, a model in Colombian institutions.

He has been a lecturer, panelist, opinion columnist and consultant on topics such as: human rights, security and coexistence, environmental protection, protection of children and adolescents, fight against transnational organized crime, citizen security, fight against corruption and protection of people and property. He advised the campaign of current President Gustavo Petro on issues of security and citizen coexistence, protection of the environment and natural resources, especially the Amazon rainforest through an aircraft fleet; the welfare of soldiers, police officers and their families; as well as the use of the capabilities of the Military Forces to bring social solutions to the neediest communities, through the construction of roads, bridges, schools, health posts and river transport. After the election of President Gustavo Petro, Mr. Salamanca assumed the role of general coordinator for the connection of the defense sector, between the outgoing government and the incoming government.

He has received numerous accolades, distinctions, and decorations, from various distinguished personnel, nations, and institutions, such as the 'Order Isabel La Católica' awarded by the King Spain. Other accolades, include: 'The Cross of Boyacá', 'The Order of San Carlos', 'The Order of Democracy', 'Medal of Tourism Merit', 'Medal of Merit in Communications', 'Grand Cross Order of Environmental Merit Alexander Von Humboldt', 'Medal of National Environmental Merit', 'Star Order of the National Police', 'Cross of Police Merit', and 'Distinguished Services of the Ministry of National Defense'. For his contribution to the security of the Colombian capital, he was decorated by the then Mayor of Bogotá, Gustavo Petro, with the 'Order of Merit City of Bogotá' in the grade of 'Grand Officer', among other distinctions and recognitions.

Mr. Salamanca is married with two children.

# FIU CONDUCTS ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY



The diplomatic community in South Florida fulfill unique and robust roles. The Consular Corps of Miami not only enrich our international footprint, they also provide tangible economic impact. The Protocol and International Affairs Division of Miami-Dade Aviation Department has engaged the Master of Arts in Global Affairs Program in the Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs at FIU to conduct an economic impact study of the Consular Corps of Miami in Miami-Dade County. An economic impact analysis quantitatively estimates the economic benefits a particular

project, entity, or industry brings or could bring to the surrounding community or region. The study will assess the direct, indirect, and induced economic impact of the Consular Corps on our community.

FIU's Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs has been named a full member of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA), making it the first university in Florida to achieve the prestigious designation and one of only 25 United State and 38 APSIA member schools in the world. Created in 1989, APSIA brings together the leading graduate schools of international affairs worldwide, with the goal of improving global affairs education and advancing international understanding.

Launched in 2008, the Green School offers 38 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, as well as more than 50 certificate programs. The School has been recognized for its applied master's degree programs, including the Master of Arts in Global Affairs, ranked among the top 40 in the world for policy careers by *Foreign Policy* magazine. The school has also been ranked in the top 50 for Public Affairs programs by U.S. News & World Report (2023).

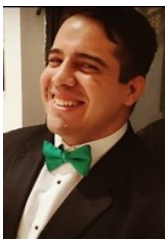
Two FIU graduate students—**Ruthnie Auguste** and **Joseph Rosado**—will conduct the economic impact study as part of their Capstone project. The Capstone is a practice-oriented course that allows students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in applied policy research and analysis. The Capstone project also serves as an outcome measure for the program, allowing the faculty to assess student progress and areas in the curriculum to enhance or modify. **Dr. Mihaela Pinte**a, Associate Professor and Chairperson in the Department of Economics, is the faculty supervisor for the project.

## About the FIU Analysts



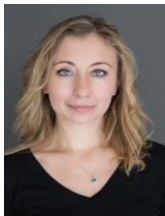
**Ruthnie Auguste** is a student in the Master of Global Affairs program at Florida International University. She completed her undergraduate degree in public administration at FIU. She has worked in various immigration and foreign affairs-related firms, including attorney offices and USAID as an intern.

Additionally, Ms. Ruthnie held multiple leadership positions at FIU during her undergraduate years. She was the president of the Haitian Student Organization on campus and the first-generation club's representative on the student organizations council. She is currently the administrative services coordinator for the College of Business under the Small Business Development Center at Florida International University.



**Joseph Rosado** is a student in the Master of Global Affairs program at Florida International University. He holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from the American Public University System. He also earned Associate degrees in Mass Communications and Journalism, Intelligence Collection Studies, and French Language and Culture.

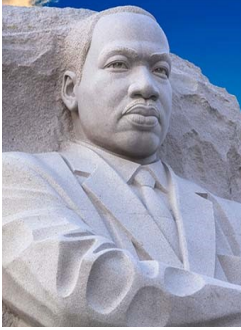
He has been enlisted with the Florida Army National Guard since 2017 and holds the rank of Sergeant. His time in service also included a deployment to Kuwait in 2020 at the height of the pandemic. He is an aspiring polyglot, speaking Spanish and French fluently and studying Esperanto, Russian, and Portuguese. He enjoys traveling, reading, mixed martial arts, and experiencing new cultures.



**Dr. Mihaela Pinte**a is a professor and the Chairperson of the Economics Department in the Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs at Florida International University. Originally from Romania, she obtained her PhD in Economics from the University of Washington and joined FIU in 2003. She has also been a Visiting Scholar at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and taught at the University of Maryland.

Her research interests span macroeconomics, economic growth, and development, as well as demographic economics and she has published articles in refereed journals such as *Review of Economic Dynamics*, *Journal of Macroeconomics*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, *The B.E. Journal of Macroeconomics*, among others.

# BRIEFS & NOTES



MLK Memorial Statute  
Washington, DC.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (sometimes referred to as MLK Day) is celebrated on the third Monday of January and is seen to promote equal rights for all Americans, regardless of their background. The idea of Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a holiday was promoted by labor unions in contract negotiations, and Illinois was the first state to adopt MLK Day as a state holiday in 1973. In 1983 legislation making the third Monday in January a federal holiday finally was passed, and the first observance nationwide was in 1986.

Born in 1929, Martin Luther King's birthday was on January 15<sup>th</sup>. He was a Baptist minister who advocated the use of nonviolent means to end racial segregation, he first came to national prominence during a bus boycott by African Americans in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955. He founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957 and led the 1963 March on Washington. The most influential of African American civil rights leaders during the 1960s, he was instrumental in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed discrimination in public accommodations, facilities, and employment, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. King was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1964. He was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

Below are some interesting facts about Martin Luther King Jr:

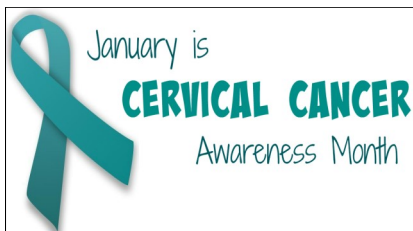
- \* The civil rights icon was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. He was originally named Michael; it was later that his father traveled to Germany and named his son after Protestant Reformist Leader Martin Luther!
- \* Martin Luther King, Jr., started College at the age of 15, Mr. King, Jr., was such a gifted student that he skipped grades nine and 12 before enrolling in 1944 at Morehouse College, the alma mater of his father and maternal grandfather. MLK was ordained before graduating college with a degree in sociology.
- \* Many of the films and documentaries about MLK not only serve as great Black history movies, but they also help facilitate necessary conversations about race.



[The United Nations General Assembly](#) designated January 27—the anniversary of the liberation of [Auschwitz-Birkenau](#)—as [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#). On this annual day of commemoration, the UN urges every member state to honor the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions of other victims of Nazism and to develop educational programs to help prevent future genocides.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Day, or the International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust commemorates the victims of the [Holocaust](#), which resulted in the murder of one third of the Jewish people, along with countless members of other minorities between 1933 and 1945 by [Nazi Germany](#), an attempt to implement their "[final solution](#)" to the [Jewish question](#). January 27 was chosen

to commemorate the date when the [Auschwitz concentration camp was liberated](#) by the [Red Army](#) in 1945.



[The 111<sup>th</sup> United States Congress](#) (2009-2010) designated January as Cervical Health Awareness Month, and it's observed throughout the U.S. to encourage women to be more attentive to their health. [The American Cancer Society's](#) estimates for cervical cancer in the United States for 2023 are:

- About 13,960 new cases of invasive cervical cancer will be diagnosed.
- About 4,310 women will die from cervical cancer.

Cervical pre-cancers are diagnosed far more often than invasive cervical cancer. Cervical cancer was once the most common causes of cancer death for American women. The cervical cancer death rate dropped significantly with the increased use of the [Pap test](#). (This screening procedure can find changes in the cervix before cancer develops. It can also find cervical cancer early – when it's small and easier to cure.)

## Origin of the Pap Smear or Pap Test (Cytology)

In the mid-1940s, [Dr. Georgios Nikolaou Papanikolaou's](#) 'Pap smear' cancer screening method was practiced in the U.S. Later, the test became equally popular in the U.K., and a special program for early cervical cancer detection and screening was introduced in 1988. In the late 1970s, screeners were also able to detect H.P.V.16 in patients with cervical cancers. And through continuous research and development, effective vaccines were developed and licensed to prevent major types of H.P.V., including types 16 and 18 that are known to cause cervical cancer. Although H.P.V. vaccination prevents new H.P.V. infections, it does not treat existing ones. These vaccines are most effective when taken before exposure to H.P.V.; therefore, regular screening is the best way to prevent cervical cancer. And the main idea behind Cervical Health Awareness month is to raise awareness in the community about the benefits of early detection when there are no symptoms of the disease.

# INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAYS (JANUARY)

**January 1, 1804 – Haiti:** Two months after beating the French forces, Jean-Jacques Dessalines proclaimed the independence of Saint-Domingue. He 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 Federation 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 Ukraine, and the country 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 Jan 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.

## ABOUT US

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*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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