

# Plans for the 2012 G8 Camp David Summit: May 18-19, 2012

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## **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

G8	Group of Eight
G20	Group of Twenty
GP	The Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NATO	North American Treaty Organization
NPDG	Nonproliferation Directors Group
NSSG	The Nuclear Safety and Security Group

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## **Preface**

This report on “Plans for the 2012 G8 Camp David Summit” is compiled by the G8 Research Group largely from public sources as an aid to researchers and other stakeholders interested in the G8. It will be updated periodically as plans for the summit evolve. This report includes material on the physical summit, the United States internal preparations and G8 ministerial meetings.

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## **Introduction: United State’s 2012 G8**

The United States holds the presidency of the G8 for 2012 and will host the summit on May 18-19, 2012 at Camp David, Maryland, just outside of Washington DC. The Camp David Summit will cover issues such as macroeconomics, deficit reduction, regional security, development and accountability. Other issues identified are energy, food security and the Deauville Partnership

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## **Agenda: The Policy Summit**

### **Priority Themes**

The priority themes are the economy, development and security. The discussion on the economy will include a focus on fiscal consolidation and attention to actions to accelerate growth. Under the area of development the focus will be on food security and will take stock of the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative and when discussing issues of security, Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, and North Korea will be the main priority countries.

For a majority of the preparatory process the United States did not finalized an agenda but stated that as host of the 2012 G8 summit the United States will take a pragmatic and results-oriented approach. They would like to identify the agenda items which are

important to citizens and will include issues such as the rule of law, anti-corruption, expanding educational opportunity, and strengthening civil society.

## Economy

During the Camp David Summit, President Obama will discuss with German chancellor Angela Merkel to support a growth package to help bail out Europe, stating that "Europe is still weak and that is creating uncertainty for the business community here."<sup>1</sup> (May 15, 2011, Guardian UK)

On 15 May 2012, Obama spoke with Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti about the ongoing eurozone crisis and agreed on the need to intensify efforts to "promote growth and job creation."<sup>2</sup> (May 15, 2012, Xinhua News Agency)

The Obama administration welcomed Europe's shift in focus to economic growth and away from tough budget measures to ensure a sounder fiscal future.<sup>3</sup> (May 15, 2012, Reuters News)

With uncertainty in the Euro zone, the leaders of the G8 will discuss concerns regarding whether Greece will adhere to bail out conditions, concerns around Spanish banks and Italian debt. In a statement, Obama compared the European crisis with the United States slow recovery, "Europe is still in a difficult state partly because they didn't take some of the decisive steps that we took early on in this recession." There is expectation that the summit will be an opportunity for the United States, with France, and Italy to work for Germany to take a more flexible approach. It has been made clear that the Obama administration will not provide funds to any euro rescue plans.<sup>4</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

## Deauville Partnership

The G8's formal agenda will be dominated by the Deauville Partnership which was established to provide economic and political support for "Arab Spring" transitions towards democracy.<sup>5</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

As host, the United States has put forward the "Deauville Partnership" as one way to coordinate economic efforts in the Middle East and North Africa. The "two-prong" approach suggested to benefit Egypt specifically would include an investment and trade strategy and helping Egyptian exporters make better use of the Generalized System of

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<sup>1</sup> [MacAskill, Ewen, Guardian UK \(May 15, 2012\), "G8 summit: Obama to press Angela Merkel on](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Ran Wei, Xinhua News Agency \(May 15, 2012\), "Obama calls Italian PM ahead of NATO summit."](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Reuters News \(May 15, 2012\), "UPDATE 1-U.S. welcomes growth debate in Europe."](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Collinson, Stephen, Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), "Euro debt woes darken mood for G8 summit."](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), "G8 to tackle Syria, NKorea, Iran, Afghanistan, Myanmar."](#)

Preferences program. The Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Miriam Sapiro outlined that the approach would focus on delivering immediate as well as long-term goals. In contrast, the Egyptian Minister of Industry and Foreign Trade Mahmoud Al-Said Eisa said that Egypt is focused on short-term steps to stimulate economic growth and employment, and that a free trade agreement with the United States is not part of its immediate strategy. Furthermore, he downplayed the short-term value of trying to generate growth through the "Deauville Partnership".<sup>6</sup> (Inside U.S. Trade, January 20, 2012)

In a White House Office of the U.S. Trade Representative speech it was reiterated that "multilaterally, as the chair for the G8 process for 2012, the United States is committed to making the best use of the Deauville Partnership to coordinate efforts related to the MENA region by major economies and the international financial institutions."Bilaterally, we are ready to work with our Egyptian counterparts to step up our joint work in such areas as SMEs, trade facilitation, services and investment, agriculture, good regulatory practices, as well as regional trade and investment arrangements to create more export opportunities and grow Egypt's economy. We look forward to working with Minister Eissa to create a concrete bilateral Action Plan to achieve our shared goals."<sup>7</sup> (US Fed News, January 17, 2012)

Mrs. Caroline Atkinson, Director of the International Economic Affairs at the American National Security Council reasserted the readiness in the United States to keep supporting Tunisia in the transition period and to implement the Deauville conventions.<sup>8</sup> (January 13, 2012, Agency Tunis Afrique Press)

During discussions with the U.S ambassador to Tunisia, Tunisian Finance Minister Houcine Dimassi articulated the plan to intensify talks to "examine the possibility of implementing the Deauville conventions," as Tunisia is in a transitional period with increasing pressure on the state budget.<sup>9</sup> (January 10, 2012, Philippines News Agency)  
At the 2011 French Summit, as part of the newly established Deauville Partnership, the G8 leaders agreed to "support the integration of the Partnership Countries in the regional and global economy through increased trade and inward investment to the region." At the Forum of the Future in November 2011, William J. Burns, Deputy Secretary of the United States reiterated the importance and attention the U.S, will place on open trade and investment across the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA) region. "We are mobilizing the world's leading economies and international lending institutions to support

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<sup>6</sup> Inside U.S. Trade (January 20, 2012), "Egyptian Minister Presses For Short-Term Steps To Economic Growth" Vol. 30, No. 3.

<sup>7</sup> US Fed News (January 17, 2012), "Remarks By Ambassador Miriam E. Sapiro At U.S.-Egypt Business Council."

<sup>8</sup> Agency Tunis Afrique Press (January 13, 2012), "Deauville Partnership follow-up."

<sup>9</sup> Philippines News Agency (January 10, 2012), "Tunisia urges G8 to materialize aid pledge in face of economic crunch".

the transitions in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya, as well as the major reforms underway in Jordan and Morocco.”<sup>10</sup> (November 22, 2011, Targeted News Service)

On July 23, 2011, Jordan’s Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Ja'far Hasan announced that Jordan was officially invited to join the G8's Deauville Partnership initiative. The minister received the invitation at a G8 meeting in Paris aimed at supporting Arab countries in economic, investment, trade and aid domains in addition to supporting political and economic reform programmes. Two follow up meetings will be held with Arab countries, which joined the 'Deauville Partnership' initiative later in the year.<sup>11</sup> (July 24, 2011, BBC Monitoring Middle East)

The previous G8 host Nicolas Sarkozy has assigned former French prime minister Edouard Balladur to be in charge of the Deauville Partnership. The group headed by Balladur will work closely with other multilateral bodies, notably the international financial institutions. Balladur will start visiting Arab countries this month. The mandate of Balladur's group will end when the French presidency of the G8 expires on December 31, 2011.<sup>12</sup> (July 5, 2011, Dow Jones Newswires)

Sarkozy hopes that Morocco will join the Deauville Partnership. "As part of measures adopted at the latest G8 meeting, on May 27, France hopes that Morocco will join the Deauville Partnership, which aims to lend practical support for the Arab states engaged in democratic transition," Sarkozy said.<sup>13</sup> (July 3, 2011, Agence Maghreb Arabe Presse)

## Security

Obama will likely use the Camp David Summit to push for more action against Syria's President Bashar al-Assad. Russia, represented by current Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, has vetoed two UN Security Council resolutions against the Syrian government. The leaders will also strategize ahead of talks between global powers and Iran on its nuclear program in Baghdad and discuss whether to lift sanctions on Myanmar as an incentive to continue with recent reforms. They will likely also caution North Korea to not launch a new nuclear test and discuss plans to transition security control to Afghan forces, ahead of the NATO summit in Chicago starting on May 20, 2012.<sup>14</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

Obama spoke with Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti over the phone on the upcoming NATO summit in Chicago. They discussed the transition of security responsibility to the

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<sup>10</sup> Targeted News Service (November 22, 2011), “William J. Burns, Deputy Secretary Speaks on Forum for the Future.”

<sup>11</sup> BBC Monitoring Middle East (July 24, 2011), “Jordan invited to join G8's "Deauville Partnership" initiative for Arab nations.”

<sup>12</sup> David Pearson, Dow Jones Newswires (July 5, 2011), “France Names Ex-Premier To Head G8 Group To Help Arab Countries.”

<sup>13</sup> Agence Maghreb Arabe Presse (July 3, 2011), “French president says France hopes Morocco will join G8 for support to democracy.”

<sup>14</sup> [Collinson, Stephen, Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), “Euro debt woes darken mood for G8 summit.”](#)

Afghans, and the sustainment of the Afghan security forces.<sup>15</sup> (May 15, 2012, Xinhua News Agency)

#### Afghanistan

The G8 plan "to further mobilize commitment to sustainable levels of non-security assistance to Afghanistan" after NATO-led forces hand over security duties to their Afghan counterparts in 2014.

#### Syria

The leaders will press for Syria to abide by a widely-violated month-long ceasefire as well as implement a six-point peace plan brokered by UN and Arab League envoy Kofi Annan. The G8 may discuss next steps in the event the ceasefire and peace plan collapse.

#### Iran

The G8 leaders are likely to push for a peaceful and negotiated solution to Iran's suspected nuclear program, ahead of a new round of talks to be held a week after the summit between six world powers and Iran. Delegates from the United States, China, Russia, France, Germany and Britain are due to meet in Baghdad on May 23, 2012 after a meeting last month in Istanbul which revived talks which were stalled for more than a year. All but China are G8 powers. G8 foreign ministers last month "urged Iran to enter into a sustained process of constructive and serious dialogue without precondition on the basis of reciprocity and a step-by-step approach" to ease fears over its nuclear program.

#### North Korea

The G8, condemned North Korea for launching a rocket last month, are likely to address concerns that North Korea will go ahead with a third nuclear weapons test. The United States, Russia and Japan are G8 members as well as partners in the stalled six-party nuclear disarmament talks that also involve China, South Korea and North Korea.

#### Myanmar

The G8 will aim to support further efforts toward democratic reform and national reconciliation in Myanmar. The G8 are considering easing sanctions to support reform.<sup>16</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

President Obama will meet newly elected French President Hollande at the G8 Camp David Summit and NATO summit. Hollande has expressed the French positions on Afghanistan, Syria and Iran. Holland is positioned for an early exit for French troops in Afghanistan and French foreign policy will stay the same on Syria and Iran.<sup>17</sup> (May 15, 2012, Reuters News)

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<sup>15</sup> [RanWei, Xinhua News Agency \(May 15, 2012\), "Obama calls Italian PM ahead of NATO summit."](#)

<sup>16</sup> [Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), "G8 to tackle Syria, NKorea, Iran, Afghanistan, Myanmar"](#)

<sup>17</sup> [Irish, John, Reuters News \(May 15, 2012\), "PREVIEW-France's Hollande in first diplomatic test with Obama."](#)

## Non-proliferation

The U.S. has assumed the lead for the three nonproliferation groups that report to the G8: the Nonproliferation Directors Group (NPDG); the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (GP), and the Nuclear Safety and Security Group (NSSG). The first meeting of the NPDG was held by Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Nonproliferation Thomas M. Countryman on January 25, at the Department of State. The groups will meet throughout 2012 to help develop and implement international objectives for nonproliferation. The G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group will support the implementation of the IAEA Action Plan for Nuclear Safety developed in response to the Fukushima accident, emphasize the importance of strong nuclear plant safety culture, and support G8 endorsement and participation in the IAEA Response and Assistance network to strengthen international emergency preparedness.<sup>18</sup> (January 23, 2012, Office of the Spokesperson)

## Food Security

Donald Kaberuka, president of the African Development Bank, will take part in the portion of the G8 meeting to discuss the issue of food security in Africa. President Kaberuka has been invited to the Camp David Summit by U.S. President Barack Obama, who stated in the invitation that the session will focus on ways to “increase private sector investment in agriculture and scale innovation.” The meeting will include leaders of the G8 nations, several African Heads of State, executives from multinational companies, African private sector leaders. Kaberuka will also participate in a symposium on food and nutrition security and attend a reception hosted Hillary Clinton, the U.S. Secretary of State.<sup>19</sup> (May 15, 2012, African Development Bank Group)

On 18 May 2012, in coordination with the World Economic Forum, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs will hold its third annual Symposium on Global Agriculture and Food Security 'Beyond L'Aquila: Advancing Food Security at the 2012 G8 Summit' in Washington, D. C.,. At the symposium, President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and other leaders will discuss G8 efforts to advance global agricultural development and food and nutrition security in Africa. Participants will include African heads of state, international aid organizations, scientific and academic institutions. The symposium will focus on four key topics: demonstrating the L'Aquila Initiative from the 2009 G8 Summit, which stated a shared commitment to invest \$20 billion over three years to encourage rural development in poor countries; presenting select African countries' development plans; announcing new commitments to these plans; and exploring opportunities for non-governmental plans to complement and amplify action to further the goals of the G8 Summit. African leaders, including the Chairman of the African Union and President of Benin Yayi Boni, Ghanian President John Atta Mills, Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete and

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<sup>18</sup> Office of the Spokesperson (January 23, 2012), "U.S. Assumes Chairmanship of G8 Related Nonproliferation Groups."

<sup>19</sup> [African Development Bank Group \(May 15, 2012\), "African Development Bank Chief to Meet G8 Leaders for Unprecedented Session."](#)

President of the African Development Bank President Kaberuka will attend.<sup>20</sup> (May 15, 2012, All Africa)

Obama hopes to use the G8 summit to preview a new scheme to improve food security and agricultural development in Africa.<sup>21</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

The United States will launch a US15 million program to support agribusiness and food security in Indonesia. It has been suggested by Dr. Roger N. Beachy, vice chairman and president of Emeritus Donald Danforth Plant Science Center at the United States, that Indonesia can play a more significant role in the G8 and G20 in terms of food security.<sup>22</sup> (February 8, 2012, Xinhua News Agency)

## Other

On 15 May 2012, Barack Obama spoke with Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti over the phone on the upcoming NATO summit in Chicago.<sup>23</sup> (May 15, 2012, Xinhua News Agency)

The summit will be the first major international gathering attended by France's new president Francois Hollande and is the first G8 for Mario Monti and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda. However, Vladimir Putin will not be coming. Russia's current President Vladimir Putin will stay in Russia to pilot his new cabinet.<sup>24</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

Russia will send a high-ranking diplomat to the NATO meeting on Afghanistan in Chicago on May 20-21, 2012. Putin will reportedly make his first foreign visit as President to Belarus. Russia's representative in Chicago is likely to be Zamir Kabulov, head of the Foreign Ministry's Second Asian Department and the Russian President's special representative on Afghanistan.<sup>25</sup> (May 15, 2012, Russica Izvestian)

Vladimir Putin will not attend the G8 Camp David Summit but will send Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev to represent Russia instead.

On December 19, 2011, the United States will host the first official-level trilateral dialogue with the assistant secretaries of state from India and Japan in Washington. The State department has planned for the meeting to provide "an opportunity to hold

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<sup>20</sup> [Golden, Arielle, All Africa \(May 15, 2012\), "Symposium On Global Agriculture and Food Security, Washington, D. C."](#)

<sup>21</sup> [Collinson, Stephen, Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), "Euro debt woes darken mood for G8 summit."](#)

<sup>22</sup> [YaJiaDaFenShe, Xinhua News Agency \(February 8, 2012\), "U.S. to launch 15 mln USD program to support agribusiness, food security in Indonesia."](#)

<sup>23</sup> [RanWei, Xinhua News Agency \(May 15, 2012\), "Obama calls Italian PM ahead of NATO summit."](#)

<sup>24</sup> [Collinson, Stephen, Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), "Euro debt woes darken mood for G8 summit."](#)

<sup>25</sup> [Chernenko, Elena, Russica Izvestian \(May 15, 2012\), "Russia will attend NATO summit in Chicago."](#)

comprehensive discussion on a range of Asia-Pacific regional issues."<sup>26</sup> (December 6, 2011, The Pioneer)

The full Chicago summit agenda has not yet been finalized. The anticipated dates for the G8 Summit and the adjacent North American Treaty Organization (NATO) summit are May 15-22, 2012. The NATO summit is to include discussion on NATO's Enduring Partnership with Afghanistan agreed on at the 2010 Lisbon meeting and it is suspected that this topic will be addressed at the G8 Summit also. It is also expected that the G8 summit will agree on new ways for NATO nations to prioritise, specialise and share multinational projects so that they can keep and improve their security capabilities, an approach known as "Smart Defence."<sup>27</sup> (September 23, 2011, North Atlantic Treaty Organization)

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## Process: The Physical Summit

There are fences and barricades in place around the lakefront McCormick Place Convention Center where the NATO event will be held and the two freeways leading up to the convention center will close, beginning Saturday May 19, 2012. There is a no-fly zone imposed and the Coast Guard will keep boats at a distance. Commuter trains which pass under the convention center will also be disrupted. It is estimated that 2,000 journalists will travel on an underground corridor typically used by taxis, shuttles and delivery trucks.<sup>28</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

In preparation for the G8 and NATO Summits, the Chicago City Council has passed, with little opposition, two ordinances dealing with security, demonstrations and parades. It will be the first time in more than three decades a city has hosted both meetings.<sup>29</sup> (January 19, 2012, Chicago Daily Herald)

According to Chicago City Hall, it is estimated that the city's G8/NATO host committee will have to raise US45 million to US60 million. The actual cost may be higher depending on the final schedule, protesters and federal government transfers.<sup>30</sup> (January 16, 2012, Crain's Chicago Business)

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<sup>26</sup> The Pioneer (December 6, 2011), "US-India-Japan dialogue to be launched on Dec 19."

<sup>27</sup> North Atlantic Treaty Organization (September 23, 2011), "NATO Secretary General announces Chicago summit dates."

<sup>28</sup> [Oberman, Mira, Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), "Protests and intense security to greet NATO summit."](#)

<sup>29</sup> Chicago Daily Herald (January 19, 2012), "Chicago OKs Summit Plan."

<sup>30</sup> Greg Hinz, Crain's Chicago Business (January 16, 2012), "G8/NATO summits' elephant in the room."

## Protests

On 14 May 2012, more than a hundred demonstrators attempted to reach President Obama's campaign office, eight were arrested for refusing to leave. On 15 May 2012, four protesters were arrested when about 100 people opposed to U.S. immigration policy and anti-war protesters, staked out a courthouse in downtown Chicago.<sup>31</sup> (May 15, 2012, Reuters News)

The NATO summit has brought the anticipation of mass protests. Security and lockdown have been arranged and some downtown businesses are taking precautions to avoid violence. Officers will be stationed at the Federal Reserve, banks and businesses such as Starbucks. The decision to move the G8 summit to Washington is expected to lessen the intensity of demonstrations. The National Nurses United and more than 100 other organizations including groups from Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Canada, Korea and Guatemala will be pressing for a "Robin Hood" tax on financial transactions. But protest organizers say there are plenty of good reasons to take to the street and send a message to world leaders and reporters attending the summit. The National Nurses United, is sponsoring a march on Friday May 18, 2012. Another coalition will lead a major rally on Sunday, May 20, 2012.<sup>32</sup> (May 14, 2012, Agence France Presse)

## Meetings

May 20-21, 2012                      G8 Summit and NATO

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## United State's G8 Team

- Barack Obama, President
- Michael Froman, G8 sherpa
- Timothy Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury
- Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State
- Leon E. Panetta, Defence Secretary
- Eric Holder, Attorney General, Department of Justice
- Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture
- Hilda L. Solis, Secretary of Labor

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<sup>31</sup> [Stern, Andrew, Reuters News \(May 15, 2012\), "Chicago braces for violence at NATO summit."](#)

<sup>32</sup> [Oberman, Mira, Agence France Presse \(May 14, 2012\), "Protests and intense security to greet NATO summit."](#)

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## Participating Leaders

### G8 Leaders

#### Canada

Stephen Harper was elected prime minister of Canada in January 2006 and was re-elected in October 2008. He was first elected as a member of Parliament in 1993. He served as leader of the opposition for several years before becoming prime minister. Before running for politics he served as a policy adviser for the Reform Party. Born in Toronto, Ontario, on April 30, 1959, he studied at the University of Toronto and the University of Calgary, earning his master's degree in economics in 1991. He and his wife, Laureen Harper, have two children. Canada hosted the 2010 Muskoka Summit and usually follows Italy in the hosting sequence (i.e., 2018).

#### France

François Hollande was elected president of France on May 6, 2012, and inaugurated on May 16. He was nominated on 16 October 2011 to be the Socialist Party candidate for the 2012 presidential election in France. He served as first secretary of the party from 1997 to 2008. He has been the Deputy of the National Assembly of France for Corrèze from 1988 to 1993 and again since 1997, and was also the mayor of Tulle from 2001 to 2008. He joined the Socialist party in 1979, and was an economic advisor for François Mitterrand. Born in Rouen on 12 August 1954, he holds degrees from École nationale d'administration (ENA), and the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). His partner is Valérie Trierweiler, and he has four children with his previous partner, Ségolène Royal. This is Hollande's first G8 summit.

#### Germany

Angela Merkel became chancellor of Germany in November 2005. She was first elected to the Bundestag in 1990 and has held the cabinet portfolios for women and youth, environment, nature conservation and nuclear safety. Before entering politics she worked as a researcher and physicist. She was born in Hamburg on July 17, 1956 and received her doctorate in physics from the University of Leipzig in 1978. She is married to Joachim Sauer and has no children. Germany last hosted the G8 summit in 2007 at Heiligendamm and followed Russia in the last hosting sequence (i.e., 2015).

#### Italy

Mario Monti was sworn in as prime minister of Italy on 16 November 2011 to lead a technocratic government after the resignation of Silvio Berlusconi. He also serves as Minister of the Economy and Finance. He was a member of the European Commission for a decade, as commissioner for the Internal Market, Financial Services and Financial Integration Customs, and Taxation from 1995 to 1999, and then for Competition from 1999 to 2004. Prior to joining the European Commission, he was a professor of economics at Bocconi University and its rector from 1989 to 1994. Born in Varese on 19 March 1943, Monti received a degree in economics and business from Bocconi

University and did his post-graduate studies at Yale University under James Tobin. He and his wife, Elsa, have two children. This will be Monti's first G8 summit.

## Japan

Yoshihiko Noda was formally appointed as the prime minister of Japan on September 2, 2011, replacing Naoto Kan. Noda was born in 1957, graduated in 1980 from Waseda University School of Political Sciences and Economics and was accepted into Matsushita Institute of Government and Management. In 1993, he was elected to the Diet and won control of the Diet in September 2009. In June 2010, Noda was appointed as Minister of Finance by Prime Minister Naoto Kan. After Kan's resignation in August 2011, Noda won the leadership of the Democratic Party of Japan and was appointed as prime minister. Noda is married with 2 children.

## Russia

Vladimir Putin assumed the position of president of the Russian Federation on 7 May 2012. He succeeds Dmitri Medvedev who had been president since 2008. Putin served as prime minister under Medvedev, having earlier been elected president in 2000 and re-elected in 2004, but being unable to seek a third term under the Russian constitution. Putin became acting president on 31 December 1999 after Boris Yeltsin resigned. A member of the United Russia party since its establishment in 2001, he led the party from 2008 until April 2012. From 1998 to 1999, he was director of the Federal Security Service, the successor to the KGB, having worked for the KGB from 1975 to 1991. He also first deputy chair of the St. Petersburg city government and chair of its external relations committee, as well as secretary of the Russian Security Council. Putin was born on 7 October 1952, in Leningrad (now Saint Petersburg) and graduated from the Leningrad State University's law faculty. He and his wife, Ludmila, have two daughters. Camp David will be Putin's ninth summit.

## United Kingdom

David Cameron became prime minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in May 2010. He was first elected to parliament in 2001 as representative for Witney, and served as party leader since 2005. Before becoming a politician Cameron worked for the Conservative Research Department and served as a political strategist and advisor to the Conservative Party. Born in London, England, on October 9, 1966, Cameron received a bachelor's degree in philosophy, politics and economics at the University of Oxford. He is married to Samantha Sheffield and has three children; a fourth child died in 2009. This will be the second G8 summit that he has attended. The United Kingdom last hosted the G8 in 2005 at Gleneagles and usually follows the United States in the G8 hosting sequence (i.e., 2013).

## United States

Barack Obama was inaugurated January 20, 2009. In 2005 Obama was elected to the Senate, having previously worked as a community organizer, a civil rights lawyer and a state legislator for Illinois. The first black president of the United States, he was born on

August 4, 1961, in Honolulu, Hawaii, to a Kenyan father and American mother. He received his bachelor's degree from Columbia University in 1983 and a law degree from Harvard University in 1991. He is married to Michelle Obama and they have two children. This will be Obama's third G8 summit and the first one he has hosted.

## European Union

Herman Van Rompuy was elected the first full-time president of the European Council on November 19, 2010. He was previously prime minister of Belgium from 2008 to 2009. Before entering politics, Rompuy was a lecturer. Born in Etterbeek, Belgium, on 31 October 1947, he holds a bachelor's in philosophy and a master's degree in applied economics from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. He is married to Geertrui Windels and has four children.

José Manuel Barroso became president of the European Commission in November 2004. Previously, he was prime minister of Portugal from 2002 to 2004. Before entering politics Barroso was an academic. He studied law at the University of Lisbon, holds a master's degree in economics and social sciences from the University of Geneva and received his doctorate from Georgetown University in 1998. He is married to Maria Margarida Pinto Ribeiro de Sousa Uva and has three children.

While the European Union leaders participate in the G8 summit, the EU does not host summits.

## Participating Sherpas

Canada: Gérald Cossette

France: Jean-David Levitte

Germany: Lars-Hendrik Röller

Italy: Pasquale Terracciano

Japan: Shinichi Nishimaya

Russia: Arkady Dvorkovich

United Kingdom: Ivan Rogers

United States: Michael Froman

European Union: Franciskus Van Daele