

# World Leaders Meet in Paris to Begin Climate Talks

## What is COP21?

- The 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties
- Annual global forum to assess how nations are dealing with climate change and negotiate agreements for reducing emissions

## What is the goal?

To achieve a legally binding agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to keep global average temperatures below 2 degrees Celsius of warming over preindustrial global temperatures

## Who's going?

- 195 countries and the European Union
- 130 heads of state, including President Obama
- 40,000 people including activists, journalists, business leaders, and city officials

## Where and when?

- Paris, France
- Two weeks, Nov. 30-Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>

### Nov. – Dec. 2015

29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## What's happening?

- Global leaders have prepared plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in advance of the conference in hopes of talking over the pledges during the next two weeks
- China and the US (largest producers of greenhouse gases) have sat down to discuss plans at the conference
- In addition to greenhouse gases, leaders will discuss forest issues and a plan to pay nations to keep carbon stored in forest