Protest



27
OCT
5:51 UTC

Albania Alert (UPDATE): Anti-government protest to take place at Ministry of Education in Tirana at 14:00 (local time) on October 27; avoid nonessential travel

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Current Situation

- On October 27, an anti-government protest will take place at the Ministry of Education in Tirana at 14:00 (local time)
- The protest is being organized as part of the student-led nationwide movement “Flamingo Revolution”, demanding Prime Minister Edi Rama’s resignation, free and fair elections, and an end to alleged government corruption.



Source: Instagram

Assessments & Forecast

1. The protest follows a similar demonstration outside the Ministry of Education on October 26 and forms part of near-daily student-led protests in Tirana that began on October 13. Turnout has varied, ranging from the high hundreds to low thousands during weekday demonstrations and from the high thousands to low tens of thousands during weekend protests. These demonstrations have routinely sparked significant unrest, including the burning of the Ministry of Education and other government offices last week. Police have repeatedly used forceful crowd-control measures, including tear gas, water cannons, and rubber bullets, to disperse protesters. A detailed analysis of the ongoing protests and associated risk of civil unrest in Tirana, are available here.
2. **FORECAST**: As such, turnout is likely to reach the high hundreds to low thousands. Participation is expected to increase if wider student groups and networks join the rally.
3. **FORECAST:** Given the recurring unrest recorded over the past several days, the upcoming protest carries a heightened risk of violent unrest. Unrest is likely to involve stone and Molotov cocktail pelting, arson targeting public institutions and vehicles, attempts to breach police cordons, and road blockades. A bolstered security presence is expected near the Ministry of Education and across central Tirana, with authorities likely to deploy riot police from the afternoon onwards. Police are likely to use crowd-control measures, including tear gas, water cannons, and rubber bullets, and make arrests if violence escalates. The deteriorating security environment also increases the risk of opportunistic looting and vandalism targeting commercial establishments by delinquent and criminal elements.
4. **FORECAST**: Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic are expected near the Ministry of Education and surrounding roads from the afternoon hours onwards.

Recommendations

1. Those operating or residing in Tirana on October 27 are advised to avoid nonessential travel near

the Ministry of Education and central Tirana from the afternoon hours onwards due to the heightened risk of violent unrest.
2. Allot for significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic across central Tirana from the afternoon hours onwards.