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**Philippines Tactical: Leftist group to hold anti-US protest at Taft Avenue, Kalaw Avenue intersection in Metro Manila at 10:00 (local time) on April 9; maintain vigilance**

## Current Situation:

- Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN), an alliance of leftist organizations, is slated to hold a protest at the Taft Avenue and Kalaw Avenue intersection in Metro Manila at 10:00 (local time) on April 9.
- The protest will be held to call for the cessation of joint military exercises between the US and Philippines, the dissolution of the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA), and the removal of all US bases from the country.
- This protest coincides with the ongoing US- Philippines Cope Thunder joint exercise at Clark Air Base near Angeles in Philippines.



Source: [Facebook](#)

## Assessments & Forecast:

Turnout at the protest is likely to range from the mid-to-high dozens, given the resonance of the issue and attendance witnessed at previous similar events. Given the protest reason and location's proximity to US Embassy (approximately 1.3 km away), security deployment will be increased to monitor proceedings. There is a latent risk of the police detaining protesters as part of crowd dispersal measures, citing disruptions to travel. This could lead to low-level scuffles between the police and the participants. With the protest coinciding with the morning rush hour traffic on Taft Avenue and the Kalaw Avenue intersection, localized disruptions to travel are also expected.

## Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Metro Manila on April 9 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the aforementioned location due to the slated protest and the latent risk of low-level unrest while allotting for localized disruptions to travel.