

Protest



16 APR 11:31 UTC Morocco Tactical: Education unions call for protest in front of Ministry of Education in Rabat on April 17; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation:

- Several education unions have called for a protest in front of the Ministry of Education in Rabat on April 17. The timing of the slated protest has not been announced as of writing.
- The unions will also hold a sit-in protest on April 24 in front of the Ministry of Education.
- The protesters are calling for a revision of the teachers' working hours, improvements in job mobility processes, access to official housing, inclusion in training and oversight roles, and the creation of new administrative posts in primary schools.
- The unions participating in the upcoming protests and strikes include the National Union of Education (UMT), the National Union of Education (CDT), the Free University of Education (UGTM), the National Union of Education (FNE), and the National Union of Education (FDT).



Source: National Coordination for the Education Sector

Assessments & Forecast:

This follows a union-led protest outside the Ministry on April 10. The renewed demonstrations reflect ongoing frustration among education unions and deepening mistrust in the government's failure to meet their demands. Anger has also grown over the government's perceived inability to protect educators. This comes after a teacher assaulted by a student in Erfoud in March died on April 13. Teachers across Morocco held a nationwide strike on April 16, demanding better safeguards in schools. **FORECAST:** The Education Ministry is likely to push for an agreement with the unions during its scheduled April 17 meeting, which could lead to the withdrawal of future protest calls. However, if demonstrations proceed, they are likely to draw turnout in the high dozens, based on precedent and the unions' mobilization capacity. Given the proximity to a government institution, a security presence is expected. While scuffles or arrests cannot be ruled out, they remain less likely. Localized traffic disruptions are anticipated in the vicinity of the protests.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Rabat on April 17 and 24 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance and allot for disruptions in the vicinity of the Ministry of Education due to the slated protest and associated risk of localized unrest.