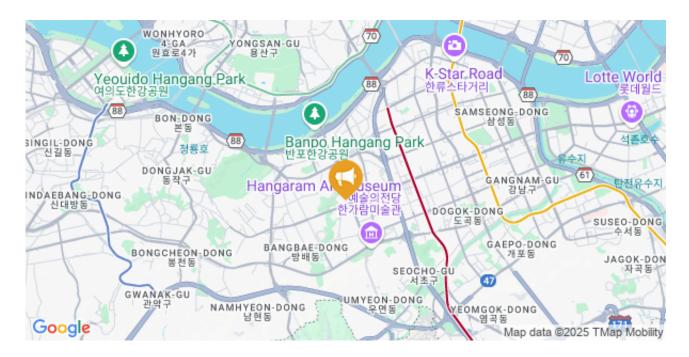


Protest

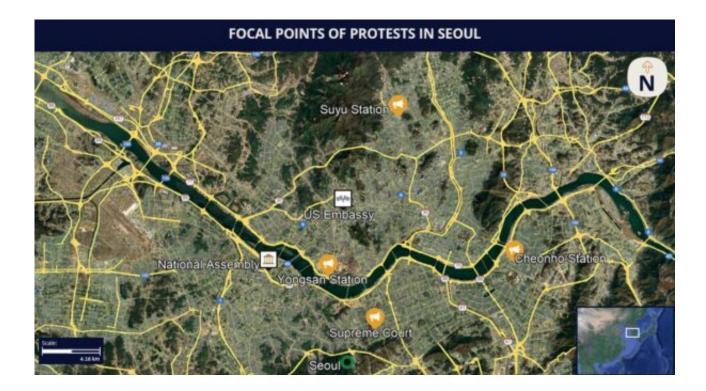




South Korea Tactical: Candlelight Action Group announces multiple protests in Seoul on May 1-2; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- Members of the Candlelight Action Group are slated to hold multiple gatherings across Seoul on May 1-2.
- The group will hold a gathering near the Supreme Court at 14:00 (local time), outside the Yongsan Station at 17:00, and outside Suyu Station Exit 1 at 19:00 on May 1.
- Separately, the group will also hold a gathering outside Cheonho Station at 19:00 on May 2.
- The group will demand the immediate arrest of Yoon Kun-hee, wife of impeached president Yoon Suk Yeol, as well as the dissolution of the People's Power Party (PPP). Given that May 1 is the date of Democratic Party (DP) Representative Lee Jae-myung's trial in the Supreme Court (SC), the protesters will denounce the SC's alleged interference in the upcoming presidential election on June 3 where Lee is considered to be a frontrunner.



Source: Facebook, Facebook

Assessments & Forecast:

- 1. The turnout at the slated gatherings is likely to range between the high dozens to low hundreds, based on the mobilizing capabilities of Candlelight Action Group, coupled with the persistent anti-PPP sentiment among the local population. Heightened security measures, in the form of barricade placement and police deployment, are liable to be in place to monitor protest proceedings and minimize travel disruptions.
- 2. There remains a latent risk of localized scuffles between protesters and the police, should the former resort to unruly behavior such as breaching security protocols. The risk of inter-group scuffles will slightly be elevated should pro-Yoon bystanders engage in impromptu counterprotests. The police are likely to employ crowd control measures, such as forced removal from site, should any unrest occur. The likelihood of law enforcement using force against protesters remains low considering the heightened public scrutiny over police conduct towards protesters. Localized travel disruptions are anticipated in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations during the protest hours on May 1-2 due to the anticipated turnout and associated security measures.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Seoul on May 1–2 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the slated protests and associated risk of localized scuffles while allotting for travel disruptions.