



Protest



27
FEB
6:01 UTC

Georgia Tactical: Multiple anti-government protests slated in Tbilisi on February 27; avoid vicinity of rallies

Current Situation:

- Protests will be held outside the Supreme Court and outside the Public Broadcaster building in Tbilisi from 19:00 (local time) on February 27.
- Two demonstrations will be held outside the Parliament in Tbilisi from 20:00 on the day.
- Another gatherings are slated near the Ilia Chavchavadze and Akaki Tsereteli Statue located at 10 Shota Rustaveli Avenue and near the Parliament building in Tbilisi from 21:00 on February 27.
- Additionally, protests will also be held in other cities, including Akhmeta, Batumi, Gori, Kutaisi, Telavi, and Zugdidi.
- The gatherings will be held as part of the ongoing movement against the Georgian Dream (GD) government, to denounce the alleged crackdown on anti-government protesters, to call for new parliamentary elections, and demand the release arrested activists and journalists.



Source: [Facebook](#), [Telegram](#)

Assessments & Forecast:

1. The expected attendance at the slated protests is likely reach the low-to-mid hundreds, with the largest turnout expected outside the Parliament, given precedent witnessed at previous anti-government protests. This is also considering the ongoing public frustration toward the GD-led government. Based on precedent, the authorities are expected to bolster security measures in the vicinity of the aforementioned protest locations, including by deploying additional police personnel and setting up barricades to monitor proceedings. Security will be heightened particularly outside the Parliament and the Supreme Court given the sensitive nature of the locations.
2. A latent risk of clashes between the protesters and police remains, especially considering the authorities' low tolerance for anti-GD protests, as well as protesters' frustration over the perceived crackdown on public gatherings. In such a case, the authorities are likely to temporarily detain participants and disperse crowds if protesters are perceived as engaging in unruly behavior. In extreme cases of unrest, the authorities' can use water cannons, rubber bullets, and tear gas to control the crowds. Localized disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular travel are expected in the vicinity of the aforementioned protest locations due to the anticipated turnout and related security measures on February 27.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Tbilisi on February 27 are advised to avoid the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the slated protests and associated risk of unrest, while allotting for travel disruptions.