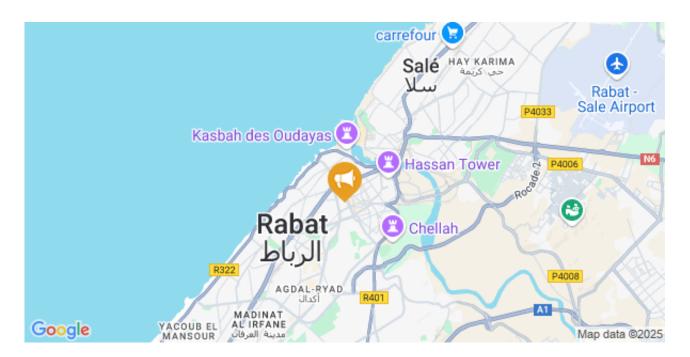
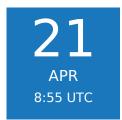


Protest





Morocco Tactical: UMT-affiliated union calls for protest in front of Parliament in Rabat on April 22 at 11:00; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation:

- The Moroccan Labor Union (UMT)-affiliated National Union of Employees of Local Authorities and Delegated Management has called for a protest in front of the Parliament in Rabat on April 22 at 11:00 (local time).
- The union has also called for a nationwide strike on April 22-23.
- These labor actions are intended to denounce the government's failure to meet the union's demands.

Source: National Union of Local Government and Delegated Management Employees



Assessments & Forecast:

- 1. The union has periodically held large-scale strikes to demand higher wages and better working conditions for local government employees. Continued delays by the Ministry of Interior to initiate dialogue have likely reinforced perceptions of the government's unwillingness to resolve the issue. The latest strike call thus likely serves to escalate pressure on the government to acknowledge and address the union's demands.
- 2. FORECAST: Given the union's mobilization capabilities and heightened dissatisfaction among local government employees, the April 22 protest is likely to draw turnout in the high dozens at least. Demonstrators are expected to engage in anti-government sloganeering. While the protest is expected to remain peaceful, a heightened security presence is likely around Parliament due to its strategic location and proximity to government institutions. Scuffles between protesters and security forces cannot be ruled out entirely. Localized traffic disruptions are expected in the vicinity of the protest site.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Rabat during the morning hours of April 22 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance and allot for disruptions in the vicinity of the Parliament due to the slated protest and associated risk of localized unrest.