

Protest

26

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7:12 UTC

Peru Tactical: Protest in support of President Castillo to be held at Plaza San Martin, National Congress in Lima on August 26; maintain heightened vigilance

Please be advised

- Reports indicate that activists associated with the left-wing Peru Libre (PL) party will stage a demonstration in support of newly-elected President Pedro Castillo ahead of a vote to approve his cabinet in Congress in Lima on August 26.
- Participants will gather at Plaza San Martin. The exact timings of the protest have not been announced, however, demonstrators will continue rallying throughout the day following a vigil observed on August 25. Additionally, reports indicate that protesters will also demonstrate in front of the National Congress.
- The protest has been called by PL leader Vladimir Cerron following intense criticism from the opposition-led Congress against the appointment of Guido Bellido as the prime minister for his alleged association with radical left-wing factions.



Assessments

1. Based on recent protests, the demonstration is likely to draw a turnout ranging in the high-hundreds to low-thousands. Given the attendance, a bolstered security presence is expected to be deployed in the vicinity of the protests to monitor proceedings and compliance with COVID-19 regulations.
2. Given the heightened uncertainty surrounding the political situation, the demonstration carries an elevated potential for unrest in the form of clashes between protesters and security forces. In the event of widespread unrest, security officials are liable to use forcible dispersal methods including tear gas, water cannons, and conduct mass arrests.
3. Disruptions to vehicular and pedestrian traffic can be anticipated in the vicinity of Plaza San Martin and the National Congress from the morning hours onwards.

Recommendations

Those operating or residing in Lima on August 26 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance due to the potential for unrest arising from the above-slated demonstration and allot for traffic disruptions from the morning hours onwards.