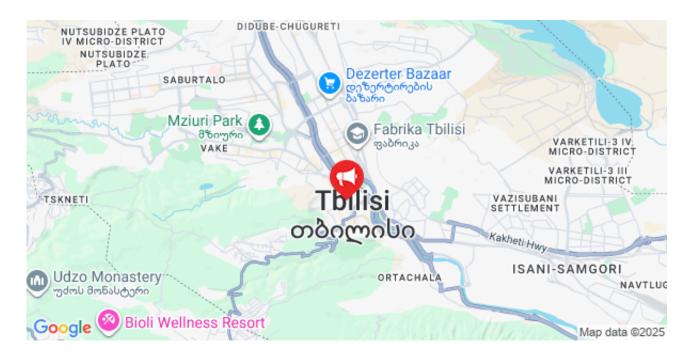


## **Protest**



19 NOV 4:47 UTC

Georgia Tactical: Multiple anti-GD protests slated in parts of Tbilisi from 19:00 (local time) on November 19; avoid vicinity of demonstrations

## **Current Situation:**

- Activists will hold a protest march from the first building of the Tbilisi State University (TSU) to Petre Melikishvili Street from 19:00 (local time) on November 19.
- Later, a protest is slated outside the Parliament at 20:00, followed by a car rally on Rustaveli Avenue in Tbilisi at 21:00 on November 19.
- The demonstrations will mark 357 days of continuous protests denouncing the ruling Georgian Dream (GD) party for its perceived anti-EU policies and alleged disproportionate crackdown on dissenters.



Source: Facebook

## **Assessments & Forecast:**

- 1. The turnout at the protest march from TSU will likely range between mid-to-high dozens, given the resonance of the issue in Georgia's universities. Turnout at other protests is likely to range between low-to-mid hundreds, given the precedent. The turnout is liable to increase given the upcoming anniversary of the anti-government protests in Georgia on November 27. As part of the standard security protocol, the authorities are likely to heighten security measures in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations. These measures are likely to include the deployment of additional police personnel, riot control units, traffic teams, and setting up barricades to monitor the proceedings.
- 2. There remains a high risk of clashes between the police and protesters, given the authorities' low tolerance of anti-government demonstrations, coupled with the precedent. The police are expected to employ forcible dispersal measures should the protesters be perceived as engaging in disruptive activities, such as breaching security protocols, provocative sloganeering, blocking major thoroughfares or employing fireworks against security forces, as witnessed on October 4. These measures will likely include forcible dispersal from the protest site and temporary detention to quell the unrest. In cases of extreme unrest, the use of tear gas and water cannons by the police is also liable. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular travel are anticipated in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the expected turnout and associated security measures during the protest hours on November 19.

## **Recommendations:**

Those operating or residing in Tbilisi on November 19 are advised to avoid nonessential travel in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the slated protests and associated high risk of unrest, while allotting for travel disruptions.